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# A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 2.

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NO. 6.

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A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

## EDITORIAL HINTS.

Xmas!  
Avoid scares.  
Alas, turkey!  
Stop to think.  
Neglect is costly.  
Merry Christmas!  
Mate up the pens.  
Good-bye, old year!  
Beginners are buyers.  
See our market reports.  
Close out surplus stock.  
Are you feeding drones?  
Resolutions are in order.  
Try the pedigree system.  
Never economise in feed.  
We still wear a 7 1-2 hat.  
Build up a private trade.  
Have you *business* fowls?  
All failures have a cause.  
"Brief and to the point."  
Good winter work counts.  
Kindness sometimes kills.  
Our readers want the best.  
Helter-skelter fellows fail.  
Has 1898 been prosperous?  
See that the stock is rugged.  
Are the fowls warm at night?  
Fright injures egg production.  
The comfortable hen is happy.  
A FEW HENS as an Xmas gift?  
Prime stock is always saleable.  
Gilt-edge goods are in demand.  
Fall months tell on weak stock.  
Figure up the profits and losses.  
Rough ways make wild chickens.  
The "all-wise" are no poulterers.  
"Slow but sure" is a good maxim.  
Our market quotations are reliable.  
Good management curtails expenses.

## Experimental Farm Notes.

*Busy Building—New Wyandottes—  
How Our Pens will be Arranged—  
A Mann Clover Cutter—Leg Bands  
—Close of Another Year.*

We have been doing some building the past month—completing our scratching shed house (referred to in October issue), building Eureka nest boxes, renovating an old pen, putting up more line fencing, etc. We have been kept real busy—but then that must be expected on a poultry farm.

\* \*

During the past month we secured three fine White Wyandotte yearling hens from F. A. P. Coburn, of Lowell, Mass., and five grand ones from D. A. Mount, of Jamesburg, N. J. The latter are exceptionally good,—fine bodies, good heads, and just the ideal carriage for Wyandottes. We selected five hens from those we used last year, and disposed of the rest, making us now a complete pen of thirteen as fine business Wyandottes as one could wish to see. To these we will mate a chunky year-old cock bird of our own raising. He has short legs, excellent breast, broad back, and is very vigorous. We look for big results.

\* \*

Besides our pen of yearling Wyandottes we will have two pens of pullets (fifteen in a pen); and two pens, of 15 birds each, of Light Brahma pullets.

Having disposed of all our Leghorn pullets, we will again breed from our original pen of 30 females, but instead of having them all in one flock, as we did last year, we will make two pens of them, using the old male in the one pen, and a new cockerel in the other.

\* \*

In ducks we will not be so well off as last year—reserving only 10 ducks and two drakes for breeding, but we shall with this number try to reverse our poor success of last year. We still have great faith in duck culture, and think it is necessary for the success of our two acre plant that we should breed them.

\* \*

We have added another piece of ma-

chinery to our feed room which will come into good use. It is a Mann Clover Cutter, designed especially for poultry work. This machine is designed upon strictly correct mechanical principles, for the particular purpose of making the knife easy to sharpen and simple to adjust, and that will not get out of order. The importance of these points can be fully realized only when contrasted with such clover cutters so complicated as to require an expert to either sharpen or adjust them. Another feature of Mann's Clover Cutter lies in the fact that it has but one straight knife to be cared for, made of the finest steel, securely fastened to a plate that can be set with positive accuracy, and yet can be removed in an instant. It cuts any kind of hay or clover, either dry or green, and more rapidly than any other we have ever seen. It even easily cuts salt hay, such as is found along the coasts of South Jersey, and acknowledged to be the hardest hay to cut. Every revolution of the balance wheel of this cutter produces twelve cuts, which is four times as fast as the ordinary clover cutter.

Another feature is that all the dangerous parts are enclosed, so that children will run no risk in using it. It is strongly built. We have a double use for this machine. First, it will be useful to cut green food like vegetable tops, or grass; and, second, to cut up litter for the brooders of our young chicks. It cuts a half inch in size, and this is just right for cutting green stuff, and equally good size for light litter for young chickens to scratch in. Chicks must exercise to do well, and when we can give them light litter they have a better chance to work.

\* \*

We stated in last issue of A FEW HENS that we were putting in the Eureka nest boxes, so that we could determine which hens are the best ones to breed from. Next to the nest box a good leg band will be needed, and necessarily one that will stay on. After looking up the claims of the many kinds on the market, we concluded to adopt the Peerless Leg Band, manufactured by B. F. Huntington, Platteville, Wis. We found this to be a light, neat and dura-



ble band, and one that is sure to stay on. It is made of aluminum, considered the best material for a band. The manufacturer claims that these bands not only "stay on," but they "stay bright." It is a neat and attractive article, and seems to stand every test. A sample can be had free by addressing Mr. Huntington, as above, and are sent postpaid, 12 for 25c.; 25 for 40c.; 50 for 75c.; 100 for \$1.25. Special sizes made for different breeds.

\* \* \*

With December another year ends on the Experimental Farm. It is impossible to give figures in this issue, as we have more than a month yet to complete the year (this being written November 22). But we hope to have a complete report in the January issue. We have made excellent progress during 1898, and each breed (excepting the ducks) will make a good showing. So far we have seen no reason for changing the breeds of our choice, although we admit there are others that would likewise give a good showing, viz., such breeds as Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, Silver Wyandottes, Black Langshans and Black Minorcas. But we prefer white birds for our work, and believe that the three classes—American, Asiatic and Mediterranean—should be represented.

Our love for the Brahma has not lessened one bit, but it has greatly increased for the White Wyandotte. They are indeed ideal fowls. We have found them hardy, steady layers, excellent table fowls—always plump, and strictly first-class incubators and brooders. We regret that we have not more of them. In our past year's experience we have found most profit in Brahmas for winter eggs and roasting purposes; Wyandottes for a steady year-round egg record, broilers and small roasting fowls; and Leghorns for spring and summer eggs, and quite acceptable for broilers.

But next month will tell the tale.

### About Broilers and Roasters.

*A Dyspeptic Lay—French Mode of Dressing—Wyandottes as Practical Fowls—Yellow Skin and Legs—Ship Only the Best—Dressing Capons—Mr. Drevenstedt Eats Game Crossbreeds—Evils of Cramming Poultry—Supplying a Family Trade.*

#### The Hen—A Dyspeptic Lay:

I do not mean the youthful chick, so tender,  
plump and fat,  
Who dies to feed the pampered maw of some  
rich aristocrat;  
I mean the biped, sere and old, of scrawney  
shape and thin,  
Whose battered feathers fail to hide her  
weather-beaten skin;  
I mean the lean and lanky fowl with long  
and limber legs,  
Who possibly might lay a brick, but who  
never could lay eggs;  
Who leaves the garden looking like a fierce  
tornado's track,  
And seeks the verdant flower bed and rips  
it up the back.  
I mean the antiquated bird, with Sarah Bern-  
hardt frame,  
Who might be boiled a week or two and still  
remain the same;  
Whose ligaments are far too tough for any  
mortal jaw,  
And make the keenest carving knife a rough  
and ragged saw.  
Yes, she's the subject of my song, the bur-  
den of my lay,

Because, you see, our boarding-house had  
"chicken stew" today.  
And, planted in my bosom thus, 'tis she in-  
spires my pen,  
The India-rubber, Dunlop tyre, or gutta-  
percha hen.  
—Joe Lincoln, in *Australian Agriculturist*.

White meat is preferred to dark by the average epicure.

Small bones and thick meat make an attractive carcass.

For marketing, a thin capon is not so good as an ordinary chicken.

The quality of breast meat determines the value of the roasting fowl.

"Fat poultry, fat price, fat pocketbook—smiles," is the way *Farm Journal* puts it.

Poultry that have been having free range, should be cooped at least 10 days before killing.

A half-dozen poor specimens, in a box of 100 good ones, will ruin the sale of the latter as first-class carcasses.

Absolutely poor birds should never be sent to a city market at all, with the expectation of realizing anything from them.

Select as breeders, fowls whose legs stand well apart, with the body between of good width, with a tendency to put on flesh there.

Much of the poultry which would find a market at good prices when alive is sold at a very low price when dressed, because it is prepared in a very slovenly manner.

Fowls should always be allowed to remain in their coops at least 24 hours previous to being killed, without food; then they will keep longer and present a better appearance.

As a rule, live poultry sells best in the market, and this is particularly the case with spring chickens that are likely to present a scrawny and bony appearance when dressed.

D. W. Thomas says that generally the poorest time to sell poultry in a great city is the period of the winter holidays, say from a week before Thanksgiving till a week after Christmas.

It is said that barley meal and cornmeal, equal quantities, scalded and fed warm, not only makes quick fattening, but gives more solid flesh and a finer golden color than any other system.

In dressing capons, leave feathers on the neck, from the head down two-thirds of the shoulders; on the two first joints of wings; on tail and half way up the back; and on legs from knee joint two-thirds up the hips.

Wyandottes and Plymouth Rocks are specially noted for carrying a generous quantity of white meat, not only on the breast, but also well back between the legs, and this is one of the reasons for the market popularity of these two breeds.

The man who holds over his poultry for special holidays and seasons, is apt to meet a glut in the market, while he who has regular shipping days will average far better returns in the end. There is where the secret lies. Market once a week.

All varieties of Wyandottes are of great practical worth, but the White variety is accepted everywhere as being the practical fowl *par excellence*, says the *American Agriculturist*. It is being

adopted by the great market poultrymen more universally than any other fowl. Its white plumage makes it dress off in very handsome shape, while its dressed shape is almost ideal for market purposes.

The *American Agriculturist* drops this valuable hint in catering to a family trade: Dressed fowls which are nicely "plumped," and placed in new baskets covered with clean linen, are sold more quickly and at better prices than those that lack the neatness of packing and display. Plumpness appeals to the appetite and neatness inspires confidence, both being important elements in working the provision market.

Some "cram" their poultry before killing, to make it appear heavy; this is a most injudicious plan, says the *American Stock-Keeper*, as it shows at a glance the dishonest intention of the shipper to benefit himself and swindle others, in his poor effort to obtain the price of poultry for corn; the undigested food soon enters into fermentation and putrefaction takes place, injuring their sale a great deal more than is gained in weight.

Brilliant orange yellow legs on white breeds are always desirable, says Geo. O. Brown. Fowls that possess them in a high degree will naturally have a slight canary tinge often at the roots of tail and inside wing feathers. This is especially true if the beaks are also the same rich yellow. When there is pure white in plumage—chalky white—the legs and beak are more of a pale canary color.

D. W. Thomas, in *Commercial Gazetteer*, says it is not considered best to draw fowls, or to cut off their heads, as it is the air that goes inside the carcass that causes the flesh to become tainted. If the head is cut off—and chickens look best beheaded—it should be done with a sharp knife or hatchet, and then the blood should be carefully washed off, the skin drawn forward over the neck and tied.

H. W. Collinwood says: "My point is that, in the production of eggs for broilers, we must pay extra attention to the hen. The chief quality wanted in the male is vigor and strength. The broiler and its digestive organs must be sound or it will not stand the strain. My experience has been that many so-called pure breeds have been bred to feather and fine points, to the injury of heart, lung and gizzard."

The Massachusetts *Ploughman* thinks that in dressing poultry, Americans have considerable to learn from the French. Not only do the French poulterers know how to stuff the fowls to get a plumper carcass, but they whiten and mold and manipulate the fowl after killing until it looks almost good enough to be eaten without further preparation. American markets might not yet appreciate so much care and attention to the appearance of dressed fowls, but it is well known that carcasses prepared with the greatest care by American methods always bring the best price.

"We have heard it preached time and time again that yellow skin and yellow legs were the great points to be



obtained in dressed poultry. No matter how much a man has travelled, no matter how much a man has seen, read, observed or tasted, these same people will play on that one old string, yellow legs and yellow skin. That is practical poultry culture with a vengeance."—*American Fancier*. Editor Drevensedt must not, in his endeavor to defend the fancy, or rather white-meated fowls, blame "practical poultry culture" for what the majority of buying people demand. Personally, A FEW HENS has no faith in this "yellow skin and yellow legs" notion, but just what the public demands is what the wise poulterer will and should cater to.

Make it a point to have your poultry of the best quality before shipping to market, says the New York *Produce Review*. One who is not accustomed to visiting the large markets knows nothing of the enormous amount of inferior poultry that is sold, and which largely affects the prices, yet there is always a demand for that which is good, and at a price above the regular quotations. The assorting of the carcasses before shipping also leads to better prices. Old roosters, which seldom sell at more than half price, should not be in the same boxes or barrels with better stock, and to ship poultry alive, and to have roosters in the coop with fat hens, is simply to lower the price of the hens, as the buyer will estimate the value by the presence of the inferior stock. In fact, never send any poultry to market unless in first-class condition, and under no circumstances ship the inferior with that which is better.

"A butcher in this city, whose reputation as a judge of dressed poultry is second to none, had a fine display of young chickens exposed on a rack in front of his store last week. Among these were two white skinned carcasses with flesh-colored legs; the rest were all yellow skinned. We stopped to admire the poultry and also decided to buy a pair. We asked the old butcher to pick us out what he deemed the best, and he selected the white skinned carcasses. He remarked that the others would sell readily enough anyway, and that the two selected for us would hang fire. Well, we ate the chickens, and never a finer piece of chicken meat graced our tables. We knew when we bought them that they were Pit Game crosses, and once again we will say that for flavor, tenderness and juiciness these Game crosses are unexcelled. Yet how many of our practical poultry writers have nerve enough to give the despised Pit Game the credit it deserves as a market fowl?"—*American Fancier*. Well, we are willing to give the Game family all the glory it wants as table poultry, but we are rather surprised to find that our erudite friend Drevensedt should so enthusiastically support Game crosses in preference to *Standard Games*. We always contended that *Pit Games* should be bred for table purposes instead of fighting qualities—but the worthy editor of the *American Fancier* enjoys a cock fight too well to second that motion.

### Eggs and Egg Farming.

*Collingwood's Tribute to the Laying Hen.—Egg Statistics—Cold Storage Eggs—Good Egg Records—Wisdom by J. E. Beyer.*

"There's lots of folks that love a horse  
About as well as they know how,  
We ain't all built alike—of course;  
There's them that do just love a cow  
Above their wives. Some folks will sleep  
When cows or horses have the talk;  
But start a word edgeways on sheep,  
And see the way their tongues will walk.  
And some folks sit up half the night  
To sing the virtues of the hog;  
And I know folks uncommon bright  
Who rub their love thick on a dog.  
I have, as now I must rejoice,  
No quarrel with my fellow men—  
But of all animals my choice  
Forever is the laying hen.  
She ain't so big or yet so stout  
As hog, or horse, or sheep, or cow,  
And yet she knows what she's about.  
She pays her bill—that suits me, now.  
So let them brag up all their stock  
And satisfy themselves; but, then,  
My mind is made up like a rock—  
You can't fool me, I love the hen!"

—H. W. Collingwood, before N. Y. Farmers' Club.

Assort according to size.  
Assort according to color.  
Fresh eggs mean *strictly* fresh.  
Eggs should be sold by the pound.  
The retail trade prefers large eggs.  
Eggs over three days old are not "strictly fresh."

See our market reports for the wholesale rate for eggs.

There is a chance for fraudery in the egg business—be honest!

The Minorca is not only a heavy layer, but a producer of large eggs.

Note the variation in daily quotation in eggs in our market reports.

The pullets at first scatter their laying days, but once rightly begun they are steady egg producers.

Scratching shed houses, green bone, clover hay, good grain, pure water and plenty of exercise, are imperative for heavy winter egg production.

The *American Agriculturist* says fall-hatched chickens may be kept two years for laying with better profit than those hatched in the spring.

J. E. Beyer asks: "Is it not time that there should be a distinction made, and the producer receive a reward for his labor, or a penalty for his carelessness?"

Mrs. Rorer says a stale egg may be detected before breaking it by the quantity of air within. This may be determined by the sound of the egg when shaken. A smooth porous shell is another evil omen.

Noble *Farm Journal*! See how bravely it endorses A FEW HENS' warfare: "Now, when eggs are scarce, stale and semi-decayed, stock will be brought out of storage and fished out of pickle to be sold as fresh laid. We are against the whole miserable business."

R. G. Buffinton says the most profitable part of the poultry business in New England is the production of eggs. The western states can supply our markets with poultry much cheaper than we can afford to produce it, but they cannot compete with us for fresh eggs.

Only a tenth as many eggs were exported in July, 1898, as a year earlier, says the *American Agriculturist*. The


figures were respectively 27,121 dozen, and 275,193 dozen. During the seven months total exports were 1,175,000 dozen, against 1,403,000 dozen in 1897, and 262,000 dozen in 1896.

Frank Fellheimer, Macomb, Illinois, writes: "I purchased last fall seven S. C. White Leghorns (six pullets and one cock). These pullets began laying about January, and had not missed a day up to their molting, getting an average of about 4 eggs a day. In the spring I mated them and got splendid results, getting an average of 8 to 10 chicks for every hatch."

J. E. Beyer, in his address before the Butter, Egg and Poultry Association, Chicago, Ills., asked: "Is it not time that the great injustice practiced by the dealer, who pays the same price to the honest producer who brings fresh eggs to the market that he pays the one who brings the stale, be stopped? Should the former suffer the loss caused by the carelessness of the latter, or should he not be rewarded for his labor and honesty?"

Martin Black, Lockport, N. Y., writes A FEW HENS this experience: "Two years ago he rented 18 acres of land, with a hen house on it 24x125 feet, divided into 10 pens 12x12 feet. A year ago he kept 100 laying hens in this house, but they did not lay until March. Last winter he kept 167 pullets and two pens of yearlings (12 in a pen) January, 1898, he received 127 eggs; February, 467; March, 2022; April, 2417; May, 1931; June, 1316; July, 1437; August, 635; September, 715."

**CHOICE B. P. ROCK** strong, vigorous cockerels from a heavy laying strain. Pedigree Coburn-Hunter, making a fine bird with paying qualities. Am offering them at low price of \$1, \$2 and \$3 each. Eggs in season. E. W. HARRIS, No. Acton, Mass.

 **POULTRY PAPER**, illus'd, 20 pages, 25 cts. per year. 4 months trial 10 cts. Sample Free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cts. Catalogue of poultry books free. *Poultry Advocate*, Syracuse, N. Y.

**BEAUTIFUL COCHIN BANTAMS**, Buff or White, at \$2.00 per pair. WM. M. CONNERS, Box A, Weston, Somerset County, New Jersey.

### BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK Cockerels

Bred from hens selected for their size, shape, nicely barred and good laying qualities. \$1.00 and \$2.00 each. Also a few good pullets. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. C. C. Shorb, McDaniel, Md.

**800** White Wyandottes, {Hawkins  
Barred Plymouth Rocks. { & Felch.

Plenty of nicely marked birds, large, strong, well matured; price only one-half as much as we have paid prominent breeders for same quality. If stock is not absolutely satisfactory you can send it back at our expense and we will refund your money. MILES BROS., Spring Hill, Pa.

### Northup's Minorcas

**NORTHUP'S** 1898 Minorca Catalogue, the most complete ever published in descriptions, prices, 1000 winnings, new pictures of buildings and fowls, contains much information fully indexed under 60 headings. Rose and Single Comb cocks, hens, cockerels and pullets at bargains. GEORGE H. NORTHUP, Box 15, Raceville, N. Y.

### I. K. FELCH & SON,

Box K, Natick, Mass.

Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks, and White Wyandottes,

—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—

Standard Points and Egg Records Combined. Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.



The hens of America last year packed inside the shells of the eggs, in round numbers, 650 tons of water, says H. W. Collingwood. This is enough to fill a canal one mile long, 20 feet deep, and 300 feet wide. The shells required to hold this water contained 110,000 tons of lime. An acre of corn requires about 300 tons of water during the growing season to produce a full crop. I will call your attention to the fact, he says, that the hens of the country last year put enough water into their eggs to irrigate over 2,000 acres of corn.

For some reason, known only to themselves, the managers of a good many storage concerns refuse to make public the amount of eggs carried, says the *American Agriculturist*. They refuse to see that a full knowledge of conditions could not prove otherwise than beneficial to the trade and the producer as well. The New York *Produce Review* has recently made a meritorious effort to secure an approximation of cold storage stocks, and places the total July 1 at 1,581,933 cases (30 dozen each), compared with 1,339,627 a year ago. This authority does not publish this as complete, but so far as they go they offer an intelligent comparison of stocks. New York city is credited with 160,000 cases, and ten other reports from interior New York points 208,200 cases; Boston, 105,000 against 75,000; Pennsylvania, 246,600 against 218,000; Chicago, 400,000 now against 360,000 a year ago; ten reports from Iowa, 131,760, a fair increase.

Here is some advice of benefit to both the commission men and the producer. It is given by Mr. Beyer, in his lecture in Chicago: "Let it be remembered that the egg that is held three or four weeks is the one that causes so much loss. It is the egg that is hard to detect, and only by skillful labor that proves so unsatisfactory from producer to consumer. The greatest evil we have to contend with is the egg that is held in the nest by the producer until he is ready to take it to market, which is perhaps once a week; or held in an unfit basement, where it becomes moldy; in the bucket of bran, in the jar of salt, or in the musty and unfit cooler. It is this practice that is holding back the regular supply of strictly fresh eggs, because the shipper does not make a distinction between the egg that is brought to him fresh, and the one that has been held. How can the producer be expected to take pains when he receives no reward? Is it not common sense that the producer should insist that the eggs be gathered daily, that the nests be kept clean and a henery built, in order that he may realize two to five cents per dozen more for his eggs; and should such eggs not be worth more than those that are gathered when the grass or wheat is cut, and found by the harvester as he passes over the field? How can such a system stimulate consumption, or how can the practice of buying on the average stimulate production?"

### Our Brevity Symposium.

*Feeding Broilers—Summer Broilers—The Highest and Lowest Prices for Market Eggs in Different Sections of the United States—Mr. Silberstein's Method of Feeding and Caring for Brahmas for Profit—New Symposium Questions.*

#### FEEDING BROILERS.

*What food do you find best for broilers from one day old to market age, and how often do you feed per day?*

I feed dry cornmeal for the first three or four days. Then I dampen a very little of it and add some well-cooked potatoes chopped up very fine. After two or three weeks I give scalded feed—cornmeal (plenty of it), a little bran, second grade flour or middlings, and a little ground meat. For the first week or 10 days I feed five times a day; after that, three times.—*Henry Nicolai*, Hamonton, N. J.

When the chickens are 24 hours old feed them with baked corn cake made as follows: 3 quarts cornmeal, 1 quart wheat middlings, 1 cup of meat meal. Mix quite stiff with cold water or skimmed milk, in which have been mixed 4 tablespoonfuls of vinegar and and 2 teaspoonfuls of soda. Bake, and when cold crumb fine and feed all they will eat for the first week, or during the time they are kept in a warm room, which must never be over 10 days, or they will sicken and die for want of pure, outdoor air. For the first week they should be fed once a day with mashed potatoes, given plenty of water to drink, and plenty of coarse sand. The feed we use for outdoors is 2 parts corn, 1 part wheat, 1 part oats, ground together quite fine. To each 10 quart pail of this mixture add 1 quart of wheat bran, 1-2 cup of pulverized bone meal, 1 pint middlings and a pint of meat meal. Mix rather dry with hot water and leave to swell for two hours before feeding. With this feed we use once a week, a 1-2 teaspoonful of salt, and in cold weather a 1-4 teaspoonful of red pepper. Once or twice a week add a spoonful of sulphur, and about as often mix in the drinking water for the day a spoonful of Douglas Mixture, to every 100 chickens, made of 1 pound sulphate of iron and 1 ounce sulphuric acid, dissolved in 1 gallon of water. Keep powdered charcoal by them all the time, and feed all the green food they will eat. To fatten chickens, feed with meal made of 2 parts corn and 1 part wheat, ground together, 3 pints of ground meat and a spoonful of Douglas Mixture to a pailful. Mix very stiff with hot water, let it stand two hours, and feed three or four times a day, as much as they will eat up clean.—*Geo. W. Pressey*, Hamonton, N. J.

**BLACK LANGSHANS.** Early maturing, prolific laying stock. Cockerels \$2.00 to \$3.00 each. **JOHN TUFTS**, Rockport, Mass.

#### SUMMER BROILERS.

In regard to the question, "Do summer broilers pay?" Mr. Neilson says "No." Now I am inclined to think that he could not have received above 16 cents this summer in his market for eggs, and I know he could have got during July, August and September, 21c. to 24c. per broiler, weighing 1 1-2 lbs. If he could not produce 6 broilers out of every dozen eggs, his care of breeding stock was faulty, as I know he has the appliances to produce broilers and ducks. It takes watching all the little details that go to make the business, but there is good profit in hatching every month. But it takes first class brooders to keep chicks alive, hatched from eggs laid by hens during molting season. A broiler plant without its own breeding stock is not "in it" any more; that day has gone by.—*Wm. H. Jones*, Lincoln University, Pa.

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#### THE EGG MARKET.

*What has been the highest and the lowest prices (both wholesale and retail) for market eggs in your section during the past fall, winter, spring and summer?*

April 1st to May 1st, average, wholesale, 8 1-2c.; retail, 8 1-3c. To October 29, wholesale, 17c.; retail, 20c. Our retail price was less than wholesale during spring.—*James A. Clark Co.*, Commission Merchants, 319 So. 11th St., Omaha, Neb.

### COCKERELS.

Norton Heavy Laying strains Wh. Wyandottes and B. P. Rocks, \$1.50 to \$4. Other strains. Write wants. **C. A. DUNLAP**, Falmouth, Maine.

**Barred**, White, Buff Plymouth Rocks. Large, strong, vigorous birds bred for utility and beauty. Cockerels from \$2 up; Pullets \$1.50 up. Satisfaction or your money back. **EDWIN RIEDEL**, Wilton Brook Farm, Easthampton, Mass.

**G. & S. & B. W.** I breed Golden and Silver Laced and Buff Wyandottes. If you need any stock of above write wants. Lots of C's. All birds farm raised. Breeder since '84. **F. S. Tenney**, Peterboro, N. H.

**Barred** **PLYMOUTH ROCKS**, exclusively. All farm raised, strong, healthy birds. Bred for practical results, in eggs and meat. Cockerels \$2.00, \$2.50 and \$3.00 each. Pullets same prices. No sickness among my birds for past five years. Satisfaction guaranteed. Money back if you say so. No circulars. **C. H. CANFIELD**, Bath, (Steuben County), N. Y.

### Strong, Vigorous Cockerels

from heavy laying strains of White Wyandottes and Barred Plymouth Rocks, \$2.00 each. Eggs in season. Address, **Seekonk Poultry Farm**, Wm. E. Morgan, Prop. Seekonk, Mass.

#### CLOSING OUT SALE.

To close out surplus stock of **Light Brahmas**, will sell yearling hens at \$1.50 each; pullets, \$1.00 each; Cockerels, \$1.50 each. Must be sold at once. These are good bargains. Address, **MICHAEL K. BOYER**, Hamonton, N. J.

### My S. C. White Leghorns

Lay large white eggs, and lots of them. First quality young stock for sale at very reasonable prices. Some fine Cockerels. Can spare a few good birds of Pekin Ducks, White Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes. High grade. Address, **W. HAHMAN**, P. O. Box 3, Altoona, Pa.

**THE ONLY LOW-COST BOOK ON THE RABBIT** ever published to our knowledge, is "The Rabbit: How to select, Breed and Manage the Rabbit for Pleasure or Profit," by W. N. Richardson, Secretary of the American Belgian Hare Club, and a man of long experience with Rabbits. Second edition now ready, nicely illustrated, enlarged and much improved. Price 25 cts., or with **AMERICAN POULTRY ADVOCATE** one year 40 cts. **CLARENCE C. DEPUY**, Publisher, 314-320 East Onondaga St., Syracuse, N. Y.

# RABBITS



In the spring fresh eggs sold here as low as 8 1-2c. to 9c., and in the fall they ranged as high as 21c. to 22c.—*J. L. Beer*, Commission Merchant, 218 Poyoras St., New Orleans, La.

The following prices were paid the first and last Saturday of each month, beginning October, 1897, and ending with September, 1898:

Oct., 24-25c.	Feb., 20-18c.	June, 12-12c.
Nov., 26-25c.	March, 18-12c.	July, 13-17c.
Dec. 25-28c.	April, 12-11c.	Aug., 17-18c.
Jan., 22-20c.	May, 11-11c.	Sept., 18-20c.

Our eggs averaged almost 25 1-4c. a dozen in October; 30c. in November; a fraction over 30c. in December; 25c. in January; almost 22c. in February; a little over 14 1-2c. in March; almost 12c. in April; a fraction over 12c. in May; almost 13 1-2c. in June; about 17 1-6c. in July; 20 1-2c. in August; and a little over 22 1-7c. in September. By having some family trade we got slightly better than wholesale prices.—*E. T. Perkins*, Saco, Me.

Last fall eggs sold from 14c. to 16c. per dozen. In winter, about Christmas and later, they sold for 22c. to 23c. This spring they have got down to 10c.; at present (November) they are selling at 17c. for fresh. The retail price is about 1c. to 2c. per dozen higher.—*Lichtenberg & Sons*, Commission Merchants, Detroit, Mich.

The following prices have been paid for eggs by our local grocer during the past year. Those sold at retail, in Hartford, 20 miles from here, were from 5c. to 8c. a dozen more:

Nov. '97, 30-35c.	Mar., 20-18-14-12c.	July, 18-20c.
Dec. '97, 35c.	Apr., 12c.	Aug., 22-24c.
Jan. '98, 32-30-28c.	May, 14c.	Sept. 25-28c.
Feb., 28-25c.	June, 14-16c.	Oct., 28-30c.

—*Mrs. A. J. Arnold*, Hazardville, Ct.

September, wholesale, ranged from 18c. to 20c. per dozen; October, 19c. to 21c. Our price list previous to that has been mislaid or packed away, and we cannot get it at present.—*S. H. & E. H. Frost*, Commission Merchants, 103 Park Place, New York City.

The prices of eggs in this market for the last 15 months have been:

Aug. '97, 15-7 1-2c.	Jan., 20-15c.	June, 12 1-2-10c.
Sept. '97, 16-13c.	Feb. 13-11c.	July, 12 1-2-10c.
Oct. '97, 16-13c.	Mar. 11-9c.	Aug., 17-10c.
Nov. '97, 19-15c.	Apr. 12 1-2-10c.	Sept., 16-14c.
Dec. '97, 18-16c.	May, 12-10c.	Oct., 17-13 1-2c.

The above prices are for the wholesale market. For retail add 1c. to 2c. per dozen above quoted prices.—*J. J. Barnes*, Commission Merchant, Atlanta, Ga.

From September 15th to November 1st, fresh eggs are worth here 14c., wholesale; retail, 18c. From November to February, 18c.; retail, 22c. March to May, wholesale, 8c.; retail, 10c. May to September, 10c.; retail, 12c.—*Martin Black*, Lockport, N. Y.

We have a record of all our eggs sold since January 30, 1892. Highest price in 1892, 25c. per dozen; lowest price, 12c.; average, 14 1-4c. In 1893, highest, 30c.; lowest, 12c.; average, 16 1-2c. 1894, highest, 18c.; lowest, 8c.; average, 12c. 1895, highest, 20c.; lowest, 10c.; average, 12 1-2c. 1896, highest, 20c.; lowest, 6c.; average, 11c. Then we commenced selling to our neighbor, or prices would average lower. In 1897, highest, 20c.; lowest, 9c.; average, 12c. 1898, highest so far, 22c.;

lowest, 9c.; average, 12 1-3c. The last few years we sold our eggs to a neighbor, who retails in a city of 30,000 or 40,000 inhabitants. He paid from 2 to 4 cents more per dozen than store prices:

January 14th, 22c.	28th, 21c.
February 4th, 22c.	25th, 18c.
March 4th, 18c.	25th, 9c.
April 1st, 9c.	29th, 10 1-2c.
May 6th, 10 1-2c.	27th, 10c.
June 3d, 11c.	24th, 14c.
July 1st, 14c.	29th, 13c.
August 5th, 11c.	26th, 13c.
September 3d, 14c.	30th, 18c.
October 7th, 20c.	21st, 22c.

Since September 9th we market our own eggs in Youngstown, Ohio, above number of inhabitants, with an average price so far this year (October 26th) of 12 1-3c. Store prices would not have averaged over 10c.—*Jonas Cullar*, East Lewiston, Ohio.

Nearly strictly fresh eggs sold as follows at wholesale:

January,	22 to 30	cents per dozen.
February,	17 " 23	" "
March,	12 " 17	" "
April,	12 " 12 1-2	" "
May,	12 " 14	" "
June,	13 " 17	" "
July,	17 " 20	" "
August,	18 " 22	" "
September,	20 " 25	" "
October,	23 " 30	" "

As western eggs are of good quality during the early months of the year, there is not a wide difference in the price of them and nearby, but as the weather grows warm, the western eggs begin to get poor, and there is a good deal of difference in price.

The above prices are wholesale prices, still there are shippers whose eggs are on the market regularly and are known to be reliable, who command a premium for their goods. Brown eggs are preferred on this market. Poultry for this market must be dry picked in all cases.

Turkeys and fowl should be drawn and headed.—*Bennett, Rand & Co.*, Commission Merchants, 20 North Market St., Boston, Mass.

**White Wyandottes or Buff Leghorns**, bred for both practical and fancy points. Good breeding birds \$2 each, old or young. Also 12 years' experience breeding Wh., W. C. Black and B. L. Polish. Write. *B. F. BRYANT*, Box 19, Johnson Creek, N. Y.

#### FEEDING AND CARE OF BRAHMAS.

*How do you feed and care for your Brahmas to produce the best results—most eggs, best condition, etc.?*

This is a pretty large question, to the study of which I have given much time, but am not yet in sight of the end sought. I have an experiment now in progress from which I hope to gather another "pebble." Such as my method is, it is in use here now and during the molting season. The pens referred to are made up of ten yearlings each. Breakfast, 6 a. m.—1 1-2 to 2 lbs. of either hulled oats, white winter wheat, or barley; then fresh water; a glance at the grit and shell boxes to see if they need replenishing; doors and windows thrown wide open, if weather be fair; dropping boards cleared off and fresh ashes strewn over them. The grain is fed to them in litter (straw cut to 3-inch lengths) about 8 inches deep. At 11 a. m., 1-8 to 1-4 lb. of above grain or buckwheat is thrown in pens, and part of a head of cabbage is hung up "head high" (or perhaps lettuce or kale), or else a beet or mangle is split into 3 or 4 pieces and laid in the trough. Fresh water is given, and the Eureka nest box attended to, and eggs marked with number of hens that laid each. At 4 p. m., 4 lbs. mash (or bone twice a week), water, Eureka nest box. The

#### BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS, LT. WT. LT. BRAHMAS.

(Brown egg business strains). 250 Pullets for sale at \$1 to \$2 each. 50 fine Cockerels at \$2 and \$3 each. Incubator eggs from thoroughbred, year-old stock, \$5.00 per 100. *E. D. PAGE*, North Hermon, Me.

#### THE IMPROVED VICTOR INCUBATOR

Hatches Chickens by Steam Absolutely self-regulating. The simplest, most reliable, and cheapest first-class Hatcher in the market. Circulars free. *GEO. ERTEL CO., Quincy, Ill.*

**50 Choice Barred Plymouth Rock** Pullets and Cockerels at \$1.50 each. Address, *P. T. HOAGLAND*, Oak Hill, N. Y.

**...THE GREAT ESSENTIALS...**

to successful hatching are proper distribution and regulation of heat, fresh air and moisture.

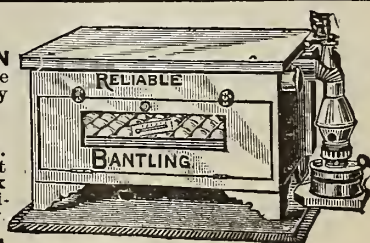
## Petaluma Incubators

are as perfect egg hatching machines as have ever been invented. They are automatic in their working and require no special skill to operate. All the fertile eggs will hatch. We build a first-class machine, which we guarantee to give perfect satisfaction, and pay the freight anywhere in the U. S. Send for free catalogue before you buy an incubator or brooder.

**PETALUMA INCUBATOR CO.,**  
BOX 256, PETALUMA, CALIFORNIA.

#### THE HATCHING HEN

HAS LOST HER OCCUPATION and in the production and brooding of chicks she has been supplanted by the better and every way **RELIABLE INCUBATORS AND BROODERS**. They Hatch and Brood when you are ready. They don't get lousy. They grow the strongest chicks and the most of them. It takes a 224 page book to tell about these machines and our Mammoth Reliable Poultry Farms. Sent by mail on receipt of 10 cents. Send for it now. **Reliable Incubator and Brooder Co., Quincy, Illinois.**





hens will only eat 1 1-2 to 2 lbs. of bone; after that, an equal quantity of grain in litter. The pens are 10 x 15 yards, 12x50, with fruit trees for shade; and a greer yard, 30x35 (sown to grass) attached. They keep "on the go" all day. The mash is made as follows: Pea meal, 20 lbs.; bran, 30 lbs.; clover meal, 40 lbs.; hulled oat meal, 15 lbs.; pearled barley meal, 10 lbs.; animal meal, 20 lbs.; linseed meal, 15 lbs.; wheat meal, 10 lbs. Of this mixture we take for each 2 pens, 3 lbs., mixed with 1 lb. each animal meal and linseed meal, and stir this into a thin soup previously made by boiling pea meal, in the proportion of 2 lbs. to 6 or 8 quarts (for 5 lbs. mixed grains) of water, until a crumbly mash is had. Twice a week we stir a handful of grit for each pen into the mash. Twice a week also, we stir a tablespoonful (per pen) of chick size charcoal (not powdered charcoal) into mash. Once a week, we replace the pea soup as foundation for mash, with carrot tops or mangled tops, boiled. Immediately after they are through with mash, 1-8 or 1-4 lb. of grain is thrown in litter to take their time until dark. On Saturdays of each week the litter is carted out; roosts, dropping boards, and partitions just over dropping boards, are painted with disinfectant; and new litter brought in. Once a month sulphur is burned; two or three times a year a fresh coat of whitewash is given the pens. We try to keep the fowls contented and healthy, and generally succeed in doing so. Sickness is rare. About all we have had were three cases of crop impaction—due, I believe, to growing rye for green food in the green yard; grass is good enough for me now.—*A. J. Silberstein, Hart-nest Farm, Framingham, Mass.*

#### NEW SYMPOSIUM QUESTIONS.

20. Are we feeding too much mash to our poultry? Some writers contend that it lessens the percentage of fertility; others that it induces sickness; others that it makes lazy fowls. What is your experience in that line?
21. J. E. Stevenson, in November A FEW HENS, claims that clover hay, green bone and corn makes a balanced ration, from which the best results have been obtained. What is your experience in that line? Will the clover or meat, or both, counteract the fattening qualities of the corn?

#### Pointers on Food and Feeding.

*The Bone Cutter—Value of Skim Milk—Different Methods of Feeding—Forcing Hens—Value of Wheat Bran—Mash Producing Bowel Troubles—Feeding Corn—What Are Meat Scraps and How Obtained?*

Feed the mash warm.  
Never water before you feed.  
Never feed spoiled or musty food.  
Meat should be fresh and untainted.  
Keep the bone cutter clean and sweet.  
Remember a variety of food is wanted.  
Cabbage contains nitrogen in a bulky form.  
Feed the evening feed an hour before dusk.

Wash the bone cutter immediately after using.

A quart of skim milk weighs about 2 1-2 pounds.

A little exercise before breakfast is an appetiser.

Oil the bone cutter every time before you use it.

You cannot have too much variety in the bill of fare.

The cheapest form of meat for poultry is green cut bone.

The more whole grain fed, the more sharp grit is needed.

Skim milk is valuable for mixing the morning mash into a crumbly state.

Some western poultrymen find rabbit meat, cooked, excellent for laying hens.

J. C. Senger says, with clover hay bran gives us the readiest grain to form a balanced ration.

It is said that a little brick dust added to the drinking water is an excellent tonic for fowls off their feed.

In using the bone cutter, use only bones (not meat) to grind, but if meat clings to the bones it is all the better.

Remember a bone cutter is a machine to cut bones and not meat. An ordinary meat chopper can cut the latter.

The number of pounds of food elements we buy in a ton of bran are 223.4 muscle makers; 1,085 fat formers; 70.4 pure fat.

The number of pounds of food elements we buy in a ton of linseed meal are 564.4 muscle makers; 65.8 fat forming; 142.0 pure fat.

Prof. Samuel Cushman says many kinds of trouble come from overfeeding, causing the fowls to get sluggish. Green food will keep them in health.

James R. Covert, Government expert, says it is assumed that the nutritive ratio for the laying hen and the milch cow should be approximately the same.

John Doherty says that if mash is fed oftener than five mornings in the week, it has a tendency to loosen the bowels. On mornings when the mash is not provided, wheat may be fed, with meat at noon and warm corn at night.

Wheat bran is one of the best and cheapest foods for chickens, and eminently healthful, says Texas *Farm and Ranch*. More bran and less corn would improve almost any flock. A richer food is bran and chops mixed, but where whole corn is fed at evening, bran and oats mixed and fed wet is better for the morning meal.

In an experiment conducted at the Purdue (Indiana) Station, chickens fed milk and grain made an average weekly gain of 4.46 ounces, while those receiving no milk gained but 2.62 ounces per week. The growth of the milk-fed chickens was more uniform as well as more rapid. The general result seemed to show the beneficial effect in every way of the skim milk.

Geo. O. Brown says that his experience, and that of others, demonstrates the fact that one bushel of corn, judiciously fed, will produce 9 pounds of poultry meat, or 12 pounds of eggs. The meat is worth \$1.00, or the eggs \$1.50. Since corn is worth about 50 cents a bushel, it is evident that feeding poultry is a profitable way of handling corn. But Mr. Brown does not state what "judiciously fed" means.

**IMPORTED HOUDANS.** Fine May-hatched C's, \$2 each. B. Warrington, Hammonton, N. J.

**WYANDOTTE COCKERELS** for sale. Price \$2.00. Box 196, Trenton, New Jersey.

**Barred Plymouth Rocks** Big Lusty Cockerels \$1.50 each. G. E. Chalfant, Hammonton, N. J.

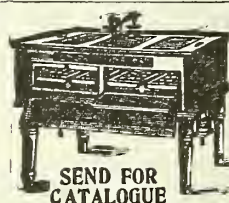
A. G. Wilkinson, Clifford, Mich., breeder of W. F. Bl. Spanish poultry. Best known egg producers. Eggs for hatching, \$1 pr. 13. Birds \$1.50 each.

**FOR SALE.** A few choice Buff Rock and Leghorn Cockerels, cheap. Pleasure Poultry Yards, Marysville, Pa.

#### Heavy Laying Minorcas.

Our Black Minorcas are mated and bred for heavy egg production. Eggs for hatching, \$1.50 per sitting. Stock for sale. Address, C. K. NELSON, Hammonton, N. J.

**FOR SALE CHEAP.** 12 B. P. Rock Cockerels from trio bought of A. C. Hawkins and mated by him, from 75 cents to \$2.00 each. Also 5 Cornish Indian Game Cockerels from pen scoring 93 to 94 1-2, cheap. F. M. CHESBRO, Mongo, Ind.



SEND FOR CATALOGUE

## DON'T BUY A PIG IN A POKE.

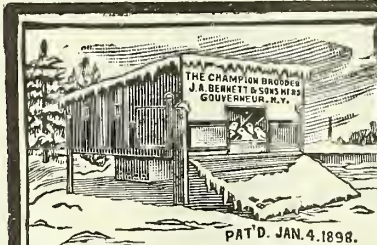
Some Incubators are made only to sell and were never intended to hatch chickens.

WE SEND THE  
**Von Culin Incubators**  
ON TRIAL

Don't buy any Incubator and pay for it until you have given it a thorough trial.

and you pay for them only when fully satisfied. They are the easiest to handle; a child can run one successfully. We send the largest catalogue and best treatise on incubation and poultry culture published for 5c. Plans for Brooders, Poultry Houses, etc., for 25c.

**VON CULIN INCUBATOR CO. 23 Adams St. Delaware City, Del.**



PAT'D. JAN. 4, 1898.

## In Zero Weather

when everything is frozen up tight is the time to test a brooder. It is then that the poultryman wishes to be sure that he has made no mistake in buying a machine.

### THE \$5.00 CHAMPION BROODER IS KNOWN BY ITS WORK.

It fills every requirement. It has stood the zero test repeatedly in the worst blizzards of years. It brings its chicks through every time under all conditions. Endorsed by the very best authorities. Send for descriptive catalog and testimonials.

**J. A. Bennett & Sons, Box H. Gouverneur, N. Y.**



Forcing leads to fat production, and fat leads to laziness, says Iowa *Homestead*. Force a hen to lay by forcing her to scratch and work for her food. If she is kept busy from early till late it will be all the better for her. By this method you will force her to good health, force her to work for a living, force her to rest well when she is on the roost, force her to a condition that she is able to ward off disease, and by the force of habit she will be forced to lay. That is the kind of forcing we believe in. In addition to that exercise if Sheridan's Condition Powder is fed it will help matters wonderfully. It is a powder that does not *force* but instead places the egg organs in such condition that egg production is more easy. It does not *make* eggs, but tones the system and improves the appetite so that the proper egg food is rightly assimilated.

W. B. Gibson & Sons, West Alexander, Pa., give this method of feeding in the *Reliable Poultry Journal*: "Our morning food consists of one ounce green cut bone to each fowl; ground corn, 1 part; ground oats, 1 part; and good wheat bran, 2 parts; moistened. Of this mixture we give them all they will eat up clean every morning. In the afternoon we feed grain, one quart to 10 hens, the grain consisting of wheat 2 parts, and whole corn 1 part, scattered in 6 to 10 inches of clean straw; with an occasional feed of boiled potatoes, chopped onions, sugar beets or cabbage for a change. Grit and pure water is before them at all times.

Eli Brock, who runs a large egg farm near Boston, gives this method of feeding: "To feed regularly is important. I make a practice of feeding my fowls warm feed in the morning during cold weather, and occasionally in summer. My feed consists of oats, cracked corn, mixed feed and roots, either turnips or mangels, in equal parts. To this I add 6 quarts of beef scraps every day, which addition, I think, should be kept up in order to get the best results. About one hour after feeding this warm food I give them a light feed of wheat, which I scatter in very deep litter, so that they keep occupied for several hours. In the middle of the afternoon I feed barley and corn, one-half each. With this way of feeding I find I get very satisfactory results."

John I. Draper, in *Country Gentleman*, in referring to dried meat scraps, says: "What are scraps, and how obtained? The majority of scraps are the products of soap factories or rendering establishments. At such places immense quantities of bone, meat, dead animals and offal are gathered together and deposited in a pile, until a sufficient quantity is obtained to fill an immense vat. If the weather is hot, this reeking mass is often in all stages of decomposition, but as the extraction of fats is the chief object of the renderer, it does not injure their value. Once in the vat, the steam is turned on, and they are kept there until the grease is skimmed off the top, the water drawn off at the bottom. The bones are separated and saved for fertilizer, and the residue,

composed of shrunken muscles, skin and various fibres, is pressed into cakes called "scraps." Now, I ask, is this a fit food for fowls? Cooking diseased meat will not make it fresh. A man would not knowingly buy a sick chicken or a steak cut from a fever-stricken cow, and offer it (after being cooked) to his family. He would fear disease and sickness, and rightly, too. But this is just what those who feed scraps to their fowls do. I want to say, also, that even if the scraps were perfectly free from disease, they would not be in the same class with green cut bone, bugs and worms,—the one rich with life-giving nutrients, salts, phosphates, lime and nitrogenous matter, the other a fibrous mass, with all the nutrient extracted; one containing every element found in egg, white, yolk and shell, in rich abundance, the other a limited amount of lime and other nutrients in very scant quantities. If green bone is substituted for scraps and fed judiciously, no breeder need fear overstimulation or any disorder or disease resulting."

#### Diseases—Remedy and Prevention.

*Limber Neck—Sore Head—Liquid Lice Killer—Simple and Heavy Colds—Diphtheria—Roup and Cholera—Frosted Combs and Wattles—Constipation—Hoarse Breathing—Rattling in the Throat—Swollen Head.*

Ventilate without drafts. The ailing fowl is the poor layer. Exposure to cold rains is injurious. The healthy fowl is always hungry. The ergot on the wheat is rank poison. Fowls cannot stand heavy wind storms. Keep your eye on the hen that sneezes. Feeding frozen vegetables is dangerous. Too much fresh meat will produce worms in fowls. A diet of boiled rice is excellent in case of diarrhoea. The scratching-shed house is built on sanitary principles. Ten drops of sulphate of magnesia to each pint of drinking water is recommended for constipation. For heavy colds, W. Theo. Wittman recommends 5 drops of tincture of aconite in a teaspoonful of water.

BASSLER'S strain of premium fowls are noted as big layers. A few choice B. P. Rock and Rose and S. C. Brown Leghorn Cockerels. Price to close out at once, \$2 to \$3. Address, W. E. Bassler, "Wayside Home" Poultry Yards, Middleburg, N. Y.

**The Hens Acknowledge It.**  
There is no time wasted in setting when a



**SUCCESSFUL INCUBATOR**  
AND A  
**Successful Brooder**

are in the poultry house. There's nothing to do but eat and lay eggs. This incubator has hatched over one million chicks during the past year. Its regulator insures uniformity of temperature. It has patent egg tray adjuster; has fire-proof lamp. Send 6 cents for new 148-page catalogue. Finely illustrated; contains plans for poultry houses.

**DES MOINES INCUBATOR CO.,**  
Box 423. Des Moines, Iowa.

A Tennessee authority says that two doses of asafoetida, the size of a pea, given twice a day, will effect a cure in limber neck.

Two parts coal oil to one of crude carbolic acid, with a little aqua ammonia added, is recommended as an excellent liquid lice killer.

The man who has allowed his fowls to roost on trees all summer and fall, and now houses them, is apt to write for a roup cure later on.

W. Theo. Wittman, in *Ohio Poultry Journal*, says when he has a case of simple cold, he gives a dose of cayenne pepper, well hidden in a small piece of fat, preferably at night.

A fowl can stand a considerable amount of cold. The *Reliable Poultry Journal* thinks if poultry could not stand a good deal of cold weather the American hen would have become extinct a good many years ago.

W. E. Kemp, in *Farmers' Home Journal*, gives this remedy for limber neck: One ounce capsicum, one ounce pulverized asafoetida, one ounce pulverized rhubarb, two ounces carbonate iron, one ounce black antimony. Dose, one pill, three times a day.

A mixture of equal parts of sulphur and burnt alum, as much as can be readily held on a teaspoon, blown in the throat of the fowl having diphtheria, is said to be excellent treatment. Withhold feed and water for two hours afterwards.

[Continued on page 76.]

#### White Wyandotte Cockerels \$1.00 to \$2.00 each.

Good breeding birds and O. K. I have just purchased the entire flock of several breeders of **White Crested Black Polish**, and offer a few birds that are not quite up to "snuff", very cheap. Have some good ones too.

D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

## FOR SALE.

30 ft. Bramhall, Deane improved Hot Water System, complete, cost \$73.00; will sell for \$40.00. Used two seasons. Want to enlarge brooder house.

#### Our Improved Pekin Ducks

are quick growers and great layers. They hustle after dollars. Good breeding stock now at \$1.50 each; will be double that soon. Hurry up.

MARYBROOK RANCH,  
J. MACFLICKINGER, Prop. Fannettsburg, Pa.

## LANGSHANS

ARE GOOD LAYERS AND I HAVE  
GOOD ONES FOR SALE.

**BLACK AND WHITE.**  
Address, MRS. C. M. KELLY, Newark, N. Y.

## Over \$10 Per Head

Actual profit on a pen of **White Wyandottes**, as explained in December *A Few Hens*. Eggs for hatching (from stock that averaged 180 eggs each the past year) \$1.50 per sitting. Address, C. K. NELSON, Hamonton, N. J.

WHEN YOU HAVE ANY

## Poultry for Market

Write for prices to

**PHILIP QUIGLEY,**  
Produce Commission Merchant,  
No. 303 South Front Street, PHILADELPHIA, PA.



# A FEW HENS.

EDITED BY  
**MICHAEL K. BOYER,**  
Hammonton, N. J.

Published Once a Month.

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Price, Monthly Three Cents.

By the Year, Twenty-Five Cents.

Send all orders to

**I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.,**  
PUBLISHERS.

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The rate per agate line is 15 cents each insertion; or 10 cents per line if order is for six months or more. About seven ordinary words make one line. There is fourteen lines in each inch space, single column.

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## EDITORIAL.

Beat all the Rest. A FEW HENS is young yet. It is among the "new recruits," but at the same time it is acknowledged to be a mighty strong youngster. Advertisers generally shy clear of new publications. They claim they have no standing; that age gives the readers confidence, etc. The first year was our trial year. Gradually our advertising patronage increased—but it came slowly. Then followed big results; those who were brave enough to try us found that they made no mistake, and they are nearly all with us yet. Besides they have helped us to get other patronage.

Among the early advertisers in A FEW HENS was W. W. Russ, proprietor of the Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply House, 28 Vesey street, New York city. Mr. Russ is a strictly business man. He is a personal friend of the editor—but that did not make any difference with him, for he did not hesitate to say, when he gave us the first contract: "If your paper does not prove to be a good advertising medium, I shall withdraw. If it is profitable, I will be with you on a larger scale." Mr. Russ is a man of his word. He is with us yet—it has paid him—and his contract today calls for more than twice the space used before. That he is still with us, and has enlarged his contract, might be called "circumstantial evidence" that his advertisements have paid him. It would not require one word of comment from him to prove it.

Mr. Russ is a business man. He keeps a strict account of returns. He advertises in all the leading publications—and this is his verdict:

"I wish to state that I have received more orders for Banner Egg Food and Tonic, and more inquiries from our advertisement in general, in A FEW HENS, than any other paper that we have on our list, within the time that our advertisement has been in your paper, and I propose to continue after my present term of contract expires. Can also report large sales in Prairie State incubators and brooders."

Remember, Mr. Russ has advertised with us since October, 1897.

Beat in a Race The Evans Manufacturing Co., Ypsilanti, Mich., are the manufacturers of a vegetable and root cutter that is being advertised in 29 leading poultry publications (A FEW HENS in the list). Now A FEW HENS never once set itself up against the larger and older poultry papers, and no one could have expected it to lead in a race of such strong competition. But, like in politics, advertisers sometimes win on a "dark horse," and they won on a A FEW HENS.

Like Mr. Russ, the Evans Manufacturing Co. keep a strict account of returns. They cannot afford to advertise in a journal that does not pay them. We believed from the start that it would pay them to advertise in our journal, but who would have expected to receive a testimonial like this:

"We wish to congratulate you on the success of A FEW HENS. Not alone for the valuable information each issue contains for all classes of poultrymen and women, but, from an 'advertisers' point of view, we have reason to believe it is the equal of any in the country."

"We have just checked up our advertising for the month of October, and out of the twenty-nine (29) leading poultry periodicals we are patronizing, using the same space, viz.: Two inches double column, it affords us pleasure to inform you that a A FEW HENS leads them all, not only in inquiries, but in number of sales."

Pleased And here comes a letter with from Ford Brothers, Oak Results. Hill, N. Y., breeders of Buff Plymouth Rocks, who have been with us for some time. They write:

"We are very much pleased with our advertisement in A FEW HENS, and shall renew as soon as present contract expires."

As all the testimonials we have published have come to us unsolicited, they are all the more valuable, and it seems hardly necessary to make the point that what A FEW HENS has done for these people it can do for others. We ask for a fair trial. Our paid subscription list becomes larger with each issue, and we do not hesitate a moment to push our circulation by all fair means within our power.

The circulation of this number is 40,000 copies. The circulation of all the issues of January, February and March will also be very large. At this season of the year we are working hard for subscriptions. We are putting the paper in the hands of people who are not taking poultry papers. They read every line of A FEW HENS—advertisements and all. Being beginners, principally, they are buyers, and hence those who are represented in our advertising columns are receiving their trade.

If you are wise you will give us a contract at once for the next three numbers. Remember the forms for the January issue positively closes January 5th.

Editorial The American, published at Media, Pa., editorially says:  
"Can a Man make a Good Living on

Two Acres of Land' is a subject that is being dealt with practically. Michael K. Boyer, on his New Jersey farm, is taking the place of the beginner, and gradually building up a poultry plant on two acres that is to yield an income sufficiently to comfortably sustain a family. In a new monthly paper A FEW HENS, Editor Boyer is describing just exactly what steps must be taken, what obstacles will be met, and how to avoid the stumbling blocks. He is a practical up-to-date poultry farmer, and in addition the author of many valuable books, such as "A Living from Poultry," "Profitable Poultry Farming," "Broilers for Profit," etc. Full information regarding his magazine and books (which by the way are sold at a remarkably low price) can be had of I. S. Johnson & Co., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

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More Valuable Testimonials. The "words of cheer" continue to reach us in nearly every mail. Our mails are very heavy, and each correspondent, it seems, considers his letter incomplete if he or she does not include in it their opinion of A FEW HENS. We give another installment, as follows:

C. Roggenkamp, Grand Rapids, Mich., writes: "I always read A FEW HENS clean through, and must say that one can derive more information out of that little sheet in one day, than in one month out of any of the large poultry papers. It is indeed 'multum in parvo.'"

W. H. Schenck, Fitchburg, Mass., writes: "I take great pleasure in reading A FEW HENS, and must say read every word in it, too."

A. R. Chipman, Brooklyn, N. Y., writes: "A FEW HENS is an ideal paper for a busy man."

The Kentucky Stock and Poultry Farm, Brandenburg, Ky., writes: "We received the October number of A FEW HENS, and will say it is the 'hottest baby in the bunch.' Inclosed find our two bits; let it come as often as possible. With best wishes for a long life."

R. M. Shurtleff, Keene Valley, N. Y., writes: "I like A FEW HENS better than any poultry paper I've seen."

D. Lincoln Orr, Orr's Mills, N. Y., writes: "I certainly do like A FEW HENS, and have talked several of my friends into subscribing for it. I am glad it is a success, and hope it will continue. I expect to increase my advertising space soon."

Geo. H. Dupee, North Hanson, Mass., writes: "I have read your paper A FEW HENS for the past year, and enjoy it very much. The October 15th issue is particularly valuable. You are right in it and up to business."

C. Bricault, M. D. V., Lawrence, Mass., writes: "No paper comes to my desk which I read with more interest than your grand little paper, A FEW HENS. Many theories which are proving successful in your hands, the results of which you have published at different times, are or have been of material help to myself, and I have no doubt to hundreds of others."

Pleasant Hill Poultry and Stock Farm, North Hanson, Mass., writes: "I am so interested and pleased with the October 15th issue of A FEW HENS, that



I wish to say that number alone is worth a good sized farm—the information will help to make one and stock it."

Geo. Bilski, Chicago, Ill., writes: "I take all the leading poultry journals, and like all of them. But I couldn't think of missing one single number of A FEW HENS."

W. B. Gibson & Sons, proprietors of Cherry Hill Fruit and Poultry Farm, West Alexander, Pa., writes: "We like A FEW HENS very much, and, in our opinion, it is just as valuable to the breeder of fancy poultry as it is to 'the other fellow.'"

F. Christman, Sellersville, Pa., writes: "We like A FEW HENS very well, and doubt if there is a better paper in existence for the price."

Martin Block, Lockport, N. Y., writes: "The last number of A FEW HENS is a dandy."

Dr. C. P. Byington, Cairo, N. Y., writes: "I am much interested in the outcome of your venture to make a living from poultry on two acres, and cannot afford to lose a number. I shall watch future issues of A FEW HENS and strive to steer clear of the mistakes which your experience will enable me to avoid. Believing there is a promising field before a A FEW HENS, and wishing it the success it deserves, I am, etc."

Robert A. Hollingsworth, Wilua, Md., writes: "If you will send me some back numbers of A FEW HENS to use as sample copies, I will get you some subscriptions. I don't care to part with mine, or would use them. I don't want any commission, but want to put your paper into the hands of everyone interested in poultry, as it gives only good solid facts, and don't lead anyone into the business with the idea of making an easy fortune and finding their mistake when they have lost their money."

**A Living on Two Acres.** Dr. C. P. Byington, Cairo, N. Y., like the editor of A FEW HENS, is working the "two-acre problem." The doctor writes: "I have been trying to work out that identical problem for the past year, and may be said to be just fairly started. But if I had been dependent on my profits for the past year for my bread and butter, I am afraid the butter would have been spread pretty thin. I have two acres of land, including residence and poultry house 100 feet long. I started last fall with 20 Pekin ducks and 60 hens. Raised and sold 500 ducklings at 10 weeks (average weight 5 pounds), at an average price of 12 1-2 cents per pound; and 250 chicks, 3 to 5 lbs., averaging price 15 cents per lb. Net profit for the year, not including my labor, or the interest on money invested in buildings, is approximately \$150 in cash, and a small fortune in experience. I expect to do what I can with broilers this winter, using White Wyandottes."

The doctor can feel encouraged at his first year's work. He has made a good start, and ended the year with practically as good profit as we did. Not including interest on our investment, we had a profit of \$195.29 at the end of our first year, while the doctor was \$45.29 short of that amount. But, as the doctor says he started without any experi-

ence, only relying on A FEW HENS for information, he thinks that the degree of success he obtained will be a fairer criterion for the majority of those who would take up poultry culture for a livelihood. So it will, and we shall be glad to hear from the doctor, as well as any one else who may be trying the same experiment. It will be remembered that we have right along stated, that what we were doing was not any more than what every reader of A FEW HENS can do, if he follows carefully the same lines we are taking. Dr. Byington did follow those lines, and he is practically keeping up with us. We want to establish that living by such methods that can be easily adopted and followed by our readers.

**\$10 Per Head Profit.** Charles K. Nelson came to Hammon-

ton, from Orange county, New York, not quite two years ago. He came for a double purpose—first, to engage in poultry culture in a mild climate; second, for the benefit of his health. Mr. Nelson did not come as a novice in the poultry work. Prior to his coming he owned and operated the Idlewild Poultry Yards, in Orange county, N. Y., and made a grand success of it. But when his health gave out, he had to seek a more mild climate, and that was his prime reason for locating in South Jersey—and he has been wonderfully rewarded.

November 13, 1897, Mr. Nelson began with eight White Wyandotte hens and a cockerel, and that pen, up to Nov. 13, 1898, laid 1440 eggs, or an average of 180 eggs each. We have heard of larger records than that—but how many really come up to Mr. Nelson's figures? He built a small brooding house, and with the assistance of a Reliable incubator he turned out some young stock, besides selling eggs for hatching as well as eggs for table use. With only eight hens, Mr. Nelson was certainly limited, yet the following statement will show remarkable work:

He sold 69 broilers, for which he received \$36.86; 20 young pullets for \$17.40; 10 young cockerels for \$12.50; eggs for hatching, \$15.45; market eggs (at an average of 18c. per dozen), \$9.36. Making a total of \$91.57. From this must be deducted \$8 for feed, leaving a net gain of \$83.57. That is certainly a good showing.

For the coming year he has reserved from the stock he hatched, 82 pullets, which, at only \$1 each, are worth \$82; and four fine cockerels, at \$2 each, or \$8. This gives a total profit for the year of \$173.57; and Mr. Nelson has besides the original eight hens. On November 13, when he made out this statement, his pullets were laying, and as he will have 90 head of laying stock the coming season, he has concluded to advertise eggs for hatching. It will be seen that he has heavy laying stock, and our readers will do well to look up his advertisement elsewhere in this issue.

Mr. Nelson is rather limited in his territory, having only a little over an acre to work on, but he has bright prospects to make a good thing out of that

Buff Poultry Yards. Bargains in Buff Leghorns, Buff P. Rocks, Buff Wyandottes. Also first-class Houdans. Menzebach Bros., 531 Wash. St., Williamsport, Pa.

# Hens lay eggs

when fed with the things eggs are made of. Eggs are principally albumen, produced by the hens from the protein they absorb from their food.

Bowker's Animal Meal gives the hen more protein and other egg-making material than any other similar food. Always sold in yellow bags and yellow packages.

For sale by dealers and by the manufacturers. Large package 25 cts. Pamphlet free.

**The  
BOWKER  
Company**  
43 Chatham St., Boston.

**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.** Six hens, one cock. Fine breeders; splendid health. Price \$8.00. L. G. ANDRUS, Elyria, Ohio.

## White Indian Game Sale!

### Broiler Men Attention.

I have been authorized by one of the best White Indian Game breeders to close out his stock, and offer them in lots to suit as to quantity and quality.

**10 Cocks,  
50 Hens,  
5 Cockerels,  
20 Pullets.**

If you want any write at once. This advertisement will not appear again.

D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. J.



acre. In fact, he is an excellent example of what can be done with a few hens.

It might be interesting to note that the past summer he built a good-sized poultry house, different from any of the accepted plans of the present day, and did all the work himself. The ground plan is 24x40 feet, 12 feet to ridge, 6 feet at ends. He has a shingle roof, and has five windows, about four feet square, in the roof, facing the south, to light up the sheds when the muslin curtains are closed during stormy weather. The pens are on the north side, which side he has double boarded, leaving 4-inch air space between. The inside boards are covered with several thicknesses of newspapers. Both pens and scratching sheds are lower than the surface, but he has placed inch boards two feet in the ground, which he then covered with about two inches of mortar, which seems to prevent any water coming in so far, and we have had some very heavy rain falls. The alley is raised about 15 inches above the floor of the pens. Each pen measures 8x8 feet; then comes the 3-foot alley, and then the scratching shed 8x13 feet. The hens go through a shute, 1x3 1-2 feet, from pen to shed. The top of the shutes are boards, which, being loose, can easily be raised and the former cleaned. Windows, 2x2, are in each pen for air. The house sets in a middle of a lot 165 feet deep, and yards are both in front and back (8x70 1-2 feet), so a green crop can be kept growing most of the year, as in this climate we have very short winters.

We are pleased to give this evidence of good work with a few hens and on a small space, as it illustrates exactly the methods and policy we are preaching. It is not always the large poultry farms that give the best returns; in fact, there is more money in 100 hens well fed and cared for, than double the amount with only half attention. It is what we do well that counts for profits.

**An Invalid's Wonderful Success.** Our readers are well acquainted with the name and advertisement of W. W. Kulp, Pottstown, Pa. Those who have met him at once are impressed with that honest and kind disposition for which Mr. Kulp is noted. He is what might be termed a poulterer and fancier, and is annually adding to his reputation and business.

Mr. Kulp was born in 1861, in Chester county, Pennsylvania, within a half mile of where he now lives. In the year 1880 his health gave out while at school. He then taught school for two years. In 1883, while visiting in Philadelphia, he met with an accident which almost exhausted what strength he had left, and from it he has never fully recovered. He was not able to do any work for a year or two. In 1884 his father proposed that he raise poultry, he furnishing the place and feed, and the son to have a third of the sales. The son was agreed to this, although so weak to feed and look at the stock was almost too much excitement for him.

The elder Mr. Kulp always made considerable money from poultry, and in about 1880 had raised some pure Barred

Plymouth Rocks. A breeder came along one day and paid \$1 per head for all the pullets he could use. Then the younger Mr. Kulp determined to raise pure stock, reasoning that it cost no more to feed and care for thoroughbreds than mongrel stock, and it would bring more money. He raised market poultry, and gradually improved his Barred Plymouth Rocks and Rose Comb Brown Leghorns, as well as a few other breeds. Then he began to advertise, spending about \$10 a year.

In 1892 he took some of his best birds to the Philadelphia show, and won 13 prizes on 11 birds (two of the prizes being specials). From then on he began increasing his advertising and sales, until today his business is all that his strength will stand, and would be a good business for the strongest man. Mr. Kulp says that one of the pleasant things about the business is that he deals time and again with the same people, and is proud to note that he has customers that come every year, and have done so for the past seven years.

He takes great interest in his work, and has made it a pleasure and a study, until he has become pretty well acquainted with the breeds he handles. He uses two farms, and parts of others, besides has 14 yards at his home place. This year he has built another house,

S. C. Brown Leghorns, choice Cockerels and Pullets. Eggs in season. ZUNDEL BROS., Grapeville, Pa.

**FOR SALE.** White Wyandotte Cockerels and Barred Plymouth Rocks. Pekin ducks, \$1 each. Winfield Darling, South Setauket, S. I., N. Y.

## POULTRY SUPPLIES

Mica Crystal Grit, per 100 lbs. \$ .75  
Crushed Oyster Shells, per 100 lb. bag, .75  
Ground Bone, per 100 lb. bag, 2.00  
Lower prices for larger quantities. Ship us your

**POULTRY AND EGGS.**  
**SPRAGUE COMMISSION CO.,**  
218 South Water St. Chicago, Ill.

**POULTRY PRINTING.**  
500 Envelopes, \$1.00. 500 Note Heads, \$1.00.  
500 Cards, 1.00. 500 Shipping Tags, 1.00.  
500 1-page Circulars, 2.50. 500 2-page Circulars, 4.00.  
500 4-page Circulars, \$6.00.

Lawrence, Mass., Nov. 17, 1898.  
Note heads and envelopes received and am very much pleased with them. We don't see how you can really afford to do such work at so nominal a figure.  
BERRY BROS.


Summitville, N. Y., Nov. 17, 1898.  
The letter heads you printed for me are entirely satisfactory. It is the best job I ever had done.  
F. W. BONDS.

Bryan, Texas, Nov. 21, 1898.  
I was highly pleased with the printing you did for me. There was certainly nothing cheap but the price.  
ED. S. DERDEN.

Amesbury, Mass., Nov. 18, 1898.  
The cards were received today. They were better than I expected for the money.  
B. S. GALE.

Carlisle, Neb., Nov. 22, 1898.  
The work you do is beautiful and surely is first-class.  
W. R. PETTY.

The Fanciers' Review, Box 1, Chatham, N. Y.



### EVANS VEGETABLE AND ROOT CUTTERS

These machines meet a long felt want among poultrymen. They make possible the feeding of green and succulent food in the dead of winter when every spear of grass and green thing is killed by frost. They convert all kinds of roots into fine particles like angle worms that are greedily eaten by all fowls, big and little. The feeding of vegetables thus prepared doubles the egg product and saves fully 50% of the grain feed. It makes hens lay in winter when eggs are worth the most money. Endorsed by all leading poultrymen of the country. Buy one and make money from your fowls this winter. Made in four sizes. Price, \$1. and up. Write for free circulars.

**EVANS MANUFACTURING CO., Dept. R, YPSILANTI, MICH.**

## Banner Egg Food and Tonic

is a necessity to every poultry keeper, for both large and small flocks.

As the winter approaches, the price of eggs increases, and this food if fed to your chickens in their morning mash, will almost double the egg yield, as everybody who has used it can tell you. Last season we sold over 5000 lbs., which proves that **Banner Egg Food and Tonic** is what it is represented to be—**The Best Egg Producer and Health Preserver Ever Sold.** Give it a trial and you will be convinced that what it has done for others it will certainly do for you.

**Price one lb. can, 25c., five cans, \$1.00. One case, 24 one lb. cans, \$4.00. Small sample can FREE.**

### Egg Record Good for One Year

FREE WITH EACH CAN.

### Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co.,

W. V. RUSS, Proprietor. 28 Vesey St., New York City.

New York and Export Agents for the Prairie State Incubators and Brooders.  
Send for our Illustrated Catalogue FREE.



and made an addition to his chick sheds.

For five years in succession he has taken first premiums at Madison Square Garden shows, and did the same at the last Washington exhibition. It is said that he has the finest Rose Comb Brown Leghorns in America, and enjoys equal distinction with his Single Comb Browns. In White Plymouth Rocks he won most of the premiums at Mt. Gretna for two years, including medal for best exhibit.

But Mr. Kulp is very careful not to sacrifice the utility qualities of his breeds for the sake of fancy. Had he the strength, he would go extensively into the raising of market stock, but as it is he contents himself with keeping his birds in good condition, and in breeding for beauty as well as egg records. In consequence, his White Plymouth Rocks have gained a record as heavy layers, and he just disposed of a pen of Single Comb Brown Leghorns that, as hens, went near the record of 200 eggs each for the year. A FEW HENS can recommend Mr. Kulp to its readers, and know that he will give them good returns for the money they invest.

**"Moral Sensibility."** The *American Poultry Journal* has this to say:

"The cold storage question is discussed by eastern poultry journals. Mr. Boyer, in A FEW HENS, takes a broadly ethical ground. He says: Don't store away eggs because prices are low. It is dishonest. *American Fancier* and *Poultry Monthly* agree that they cannot see where the dishonesty comes in; and Mr. Boyer tries to enlighten them. He says the work is done by hucksters, and the average consumer of the eggs, being ignorant city folks, are imposed upon, because those stored eggs are sold as fresh eggs. We admire Mr. Boyer's moral sense but do not accept his logic in this instance. City folks do not buy eggs ignorantly believing them to be freshly laid. A really fresh egg commands a price in the city. We have advocated the establishment of private supply trade for eggs and meat. Well-to-do city folks and invalids—to say nothing of high-class restaurants, family hotels, etc.—are willing to pay for such articles. The average consumer deals, however, with the average grocer, who in turn offers eggs in crates that reveal their history. And these grocers usually guarantee the eggs. That is, they accept the word of a regular customer who says that the purchase contained so many uneatable eggs. The dealer does not demand the return of the questionable eggs. The goods are sold at current rates and are admittedly storage eggs. In Chicago during the productive season millions of eggs are stored. Of course they come from hucksters, but neither warehouseman, middleman, nor retailer is dishonest. Mr. Boyer allows his reasonable prejudice against a huckster in the showroom to influence him against a huckster in the legitimate field. There is nothing dishonest in the buying of eggs from farm to farm and the retailing of them by the only practicable methods. Mr. Boyer represents a firm who desire to make hens

lay. He should not be inconsistent in his attitude towards the non-fancier who has followed his advice and has a lot of eggs that must be sold."

The dishonest part does not really come in by storing the eggs away, but in the act of disposing those eggs as *fresh*. If all the farmers and poultrymen who store eggs, would offer them for sale as such, and not label them "fresh eggs," no fault could be found. But such is not the case. The *Journal* says city folks do not buy store eggs ignorantly, believing them to be freshly laid. That may be a fact in Chicago, but it is not so here in the east. Thousands of dozens of packed eggs are sold annually to consumers in the cities under the guise of being fresh country eggs. A study of the New York and Philadelphia markets would be sufficient to furnish all the testimony needed in that direction. We will say that extra precaution is taken in Chicago, as will be noted in our market reports from that section.

We agree that a fresh egg commands a price in the city, and further, that the city people are willing to pay a good price for such an article. But in order to obtain that they must have an iron-clad agreement with some house, or poultry dealer; to run their chances from the basket in the grocery which is labelled "fresh," is taking a great risk. The plan the *Journal* offers—to have the poultrymen establish a private trade,—is the very thing that A FEW HENS has advocated right along. It is the only way for poultrymen to get an honest price for honest goods, and the only way for those who are willing to pay for a good article to get it. Then the *Jour-*

*nal* goes on to advocate the very thing we have done. We claim that the retailer is the one upon whom the sin of dishonesty really should fall, for if he labelled storage eggs "storage eggs;" and not "fresh eggs," he would be doing a duty that devolves upon him—but, we admit, he would not get the fresh-egg price. The point we make is this: It is not dishonest to place eggs in cold storage, or pickle, or anything else, if they are offered for sale as such.

**BUFF LEGHORNS.** Cockerels for sale. May hatched; good in shape and of a rich buff color. Only a limited number for sale at \$3.00 per head. C. W. NEWMAN, Oak Hill, N. Y.

## Black and White Langshans

Best winter layers. Standard bred with strong utility qualities. 17 first and second prizes won this season. GEO. P. COFFIN, Freeport, Maine.



**WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCKS** Exclusively. Stock and Eggs for sale at reasonable prices. HANCOCK & CHILD, Salem, N. J.




## HOW MANY EGGS

do you get? No matter, you will get twice as many if you feed the hens **Green Cut Bone**. It doubles the egg product in every instance. It makes hens lay in cold weather when eggs are worth the most money. It makes early and long layers of the pullets.

## MANN'S NEW BONE CUTTERS

"beat all." They make the hen business sure and profitable. Mann's **Clover Cutter**—made entirely of iron and steel. Mann's **Swinging Feed Tray** beats the hen that wants to scratch or roost in the rough—prevents waste. Mann's **Granite Crystal Grit** is all Grit—no dirt. Cash or installments. Illustrated catalogue free.

**F. W. MANN CO., Box 67, MILFORD, MASS.**



JOSEPH BRECK & SONS, are our Boston Jobbers.

# Most Practical Value

FOR THE MONEY.

Two Poultry Papers for only \$1.10.

FARM-POULTRY, semi-monthly, one year,	- - - - -	\$1.00
A FEW HENS, monthly, one year,	- - - - -	.25
Book, A LIVING FROM POULTRY,	by Boyer, - - - - -	.25
Book, PROFITABLE POULTRY FARMING,	by Boyer, - - - - -	.25
Book, BROILERS FOR PROFIT,	by Boyer, - - - - -	.50
Book, FARM-POULTRY DOCTOR,	by Sanborn, - - - - -	.50
All, if ordered separately,		\$2.75

**IF** ordered at one time, \$1.50.  
BOTH PAPERS ALONE ONE YEAR, \$1.10.

Or, the two papers and any two books, \$1.30. No other changes in the combination allowed.

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.



But to pack away eggs and offer them for sale when prices are high, under the tempting bait of *fresh*, is a crime, and it should be punishable. It hurts the poultry business.

**The Advertising Agent.** Some of our exchanges are throwing "hot shot" at the advertising agent, and in many cases the exchanges are not to blame. Here, for instance, is an extract from a letter from one of the leading poultry editors (but as the latter was marked "confidential," we will not divulge the name): "What is your method in dealing with advertising agents? I make them pay me my full net rate for what little business they send me. I find them the slowest pay I have on my books, and have made up my mind that in the future, their contracts must include the clause that bills when rendered at the end of a quarter, must be paid in 30 days. They are a set of leeches, and work for the advertiser and themselves, and the publisher be d——d."

The editor of A FEW HENS has had considerable experience as a publisher, and knows that what the aforesaid editor says is so in many cases. Of late years, we have yet failed to find the advertising agency that really is willing to work with the publishers so harmoniously as is the concern of Frank B. White Company, of Chicago.

On the point of co-operation between the publisher and the advertising agent, we have been having considerable correspondence with the president of the above company (Frank B. White), and make the following extract from one of the letters received, which may place this Company in the proper light before the poultry publishers:

"I shall be glad to co-operate with you in any way possible. I believe that you are doing a worthy business, and are a benefit to the poultry fraternity. In my humble capacity, and the influence of our agency, we are trying to elevate and dignify the poultry business, particularly from a business point of view. We are trying to make the poultrymen advertise better; strange to say, however, some of our friends in the poultry publishing business, regard us as antagonistic to their interests. But a greater mistake could not be made. We are going to prove, beyond the shadow of a doubt, to the poultry publishers, that the special work that we are doing in constructing advertising, and getting it up in a more attractive and forceful form, is really to their benefit, and that the paltry commission that they allow us on the business that we send is not a consideration in view of the increased business that results from our special work."

[Diseases, Remedy and Prevention.—Continued.]

Be ever on the lookout for the parasites that eat the life out of the flock. They will not be quite as evident the coming few months, but they may be there all the same, says the *Ohio Poultry Journal*. That's the idea; fighting lice now makes it easier in summer.

P. H. Jacobs gives this formula for an ointment for cuts, frosted wattles.

frosted combs, etc.; Take a pound of vaseline and add to it a teaspoonful each of spirits of turpentine, kerosene, crude petroleum, oil of tar, and oil of sassafras. Mix well, and keep in a tin box for use.

E. O. Roessle, in an address before the New York Farmers' Club, said if you fill a hen's crop before 10 o'clock in the morning, you simply induce a fit of indigestion, to which all yarded and cooped fowls are more or less subject, and this is the forerunner of almost all the diseases to which fowls are heir.

Mrs. Sid Stuart, in *Reliable Poultry Journal*, gives this remedy for limber neck: Hypo-sulphate of soda—dissolve one teaspoonful in half a cup of water, and give a teaspoonful of the mixture to each affected fowl every two or three hours. A teaspoonful of the hypo-sulphate in a quart of water is also a good remedy.

A writer in *Rural World* says he found a hen with both eyes shut, head hot, and acting very much as if she was blind. Taking a tablespoonful of salt he dissolved it in a cupful of hot water, and applied it to the head as hot as could be borne. In 24 hours the swelling about the eyes had gone down and the head was at normal temperature again.

Dr. R. V. Duke, in *Reliable Poultry Journal*, gives this cure for sore heads in fowls: Hydrogen dioxide, one ounce; warm water, one quart. Bathe the head well with this solution, and when dry apply crude carbolic acid, one drachm; fresh lard or vaseline, four ounces. Mix these two ingredients and rub the head well. If a cure is not effected in three days, repeat the treatment.

**CUT CLOVER** in sacks. \$1.25 for 100 pounds. I. G. QUIRIN, Tioga Center, N. Y.

**WHITE WYANDOTTES.** Business stock. Wm. F. Stroud, Merchantville, N. J.

**POULTRY FARM FOR SALE.** 21 acres; 15 cleared. Buildings to hold 150 hens. Incubator cellar. Brooder house. Fruit. Price, \$1900. Write, WINFIELD DARLING, So. Setauket, L. I., N. Y.

**A HUNDRED PER CENT**



of the fertile eggs, is not an unusual hatch for the **MONITOR INCUBATOR.** Proof of this and many other things of unquestioned value to the poultry man will be found in our 80 page catalogue. Sent for 4 cents in stamps. Address, THE MONITOR CO., Box 10, Moodus, Conn.

**AN UNPARALLELED RECORD.** At America's greatest show, New York, '98, also at Boston, this season. At the latter show, on two entries of Turkeys, won two 1sts, and \$10 special for best pr. At New York, on four entries, won four 1sts. Eggs for hatching from this stock, 40c. each. Best strains of Pekin, Aylesbury and Muscovy Ducks, Toulouse and African Geese, Ind. Games, L. Brahmas, B. and W. P. Rocks, Wh. and S. L. Wyand., Wh., Brown and Buff Leghorns, Black Minorcas, White and Pearl Guineas. Write for 32-page catalogue, free. Choice Stock for sale. "Agent for Lee's Lice Killer."

D. A. MOUNT,

PINE TREE FARM, JAMESBURG, N. J.

**"Best Liver Pill Made."**  
**Parsons' Pills**

Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expel all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston.

**White and Silver Wyandotte**

STOCK and EGGS. Wm. H. Child, Glenside, Pa.

When chickens become sick and you don't exactly know what ails them, the first thing that should be done is to examine carefully for a source of infection, says *Texas Farm and Ranch*. It may be in foul drinking water, or drinking vessels; or it may be unsound food, or there may be accessible some more pronounced source of disease. Putrid flesh is poisonous to fowls. A dead and rotting rat may cause the death of many fowls, and we naturally wonder what is the matter.

Hoarse breathing, rattling in the throat, choking, yellowish substance in the throat, (resembling diphtheria in children) and sometimes accompanied with swollen eyes, may be combined as one difficulty. The best remedy, says *Poultry Keeper*, is to swab the throat in the morning (using a feather) with a mixture of 1 part spirits of turpentine and 3 parts sweet oil, at the same time injecting a few drops of the mixture in each nostril. At night sprinkle a pinch of chlorate of potash down the throat. Put 10 grains of

**ORR'S CLEAR GRIT** 500 lbs. \$3.00  
100 lbs. 75c.  
Crushed Oyster Shells, 500 lbs. \$3; 100 lbs. 75c. Cut Clover, (best cured) 100 lbs. \$2; 50 lbs. \$1.00. Meat and Bone Meal, 100 lbs. \$2.00; 50 lbs. \$1.10. Orr's Egg Producer, (a mixed grain and mea. food) 100 lbs. \$1.50. **POULTRY SUPPLIES OF ALL KINDS.** Ask for prices of what you want. White Crested Black and Buff Laced Polish. White Indian Games. White Wyandottes. Indian Runner Ducks. The Leghorns of the duck family. White Cochins Danams. Send for circulars. I can save you money on every order.  
**D. LINCOLN ORR, ORR'S MILLS, N. Y.**

**FOR SALE!**

Seven second hand "Peep-O-Day" Brooders at \$8.00 each. Two new ones at \$10.00 each.  
CHARLES C. RYDER, Cummaquid, Mass.

**M. M. S. POULTRY FENCING**

is made of the best No. 19 galvanized steel wire, strengthened by a cable selvage and a cable every foot in the height of the fence.

**A FENCE, NOT A NETTING.**

Its multitude of horizontal wires gives it strength, makes it easy to erect, keeps it in good shape.

**50 PER CENT SAVING TO THE USER.**

It requires but a few posts and no top or bottom rail. Only genuine when every roll contains the famous M. M. S. Trade Mark. Descriptive matter FREE.

**DE KALB FENCE CO.,**  
326 High Street, DeKalb, Illinois.

**All for One Dollar!**

Profitable Poultry Farming, retail,	- - 25 Cents.
A Living From Poultry,	- - 25 "
Broilers for Profit,	- - 50 "
Farm-Poultry Doctor,	- - 50 "
A Few Hens, monthly, one year,	- - 25 "
Total,	<b>\$1.75.</b>

By ordering at once will send the above collection for \$1.00. Address,

**MICHAEL K. BOYER,**  
Box A, HAMMONTON, (Atlantic Co.,) New Jersey.



**Make Hens Lay**

When eggs are high. You can do it. This Priceless Secret of Success with Poultry is fully told in our New Poultry Book. It also contains a Monthly Egg Record and Poultry Keepers Expense Account for one year, by which profit and loss can be shown monthly (well printed on good heavy paper) worth 25 cts. It also explains Prof. Corbett's method "How to make \$500 yearly profit with 12 hens," for which he charges \$1. Also much additional information of great value to every poultry keeper. This book sent free, post-paid, as premium with our Paper (Gleanings) three months for 10 cents. Address, **H. P. K., Wayside Pub'g Co., Clintonville, Conn.**



powdered permanganate of potash in each quart of the drinking water, and keep the birds warm. All sick ones should be removed from the others.

a fowl has contracted roup or cholera, certainly the best thing to do is to at once put the fowl out of its misery, and save yourself lots of trouble, says the *Ohio Poultry Journal*. But the great trouble is that so many do not know what roup and cholera really are. A simple case of sneezing, or distemper, or swelled head, is not roup, and yet two-thirds of the poultrymen will term it such. It only becomes roup when the breath becomes foetid. The same with cholera: Three-fourths of the cases supposed to be cholera are nothing more than lice. Now much of this trouble can be avoided by keeping the house clean and disinfected, and the fowls free from lice, and the house warm and comfortable in winter, and cool in summer, without draughts and good sharp grit constantly within reach. If such precautions are taken, there will be less sickness.

### Artificial Hatching and Brooding.

*A Collection of Hints Valuable to Beginners, and Which Might Refreshen the Memory of Veterans—People Will Forget, and None are too Old to Learn.*

Chicks need grit.

Kill the puny chicks.

Avoid damp locations.

Start incubation for broilers.

Brooders must be cleaned daily.

Never use a cheap thermometer.

Disinfect the brooders once a week.

Uniform eggs give a uniform hatch.

Have the drinking water lukewarm.

Much trimming hurts the lamp wick.

Do not heap up eggs in the incubator.

All incubators require strict attention.

Never buy a flimsy constructed machine.

Lookout for rats in the brooding house.

Always feed before watering the chicks.

Crusty lamp burners may cause heavy loss.

Too much glass in the brooder is a mistake.

An evenly trimmed wick gives the best heat.

Feed the chicks a little at a time but often.

The warm sunshine puts life into the chick.

Never run the brooder heat over 90 degrees.

Remove all feed after the chicks seem satisfied.

Never crowd a brooder to its advertised capacity.

No machine can make a good hatch from poor eggs.

Even temperature in incubator room is imperative.

The moisture question is being more successfully handled.

Eggs from over-fat hens will not hatch well, even under hens.

Do not allow inquisitive people to tamper with the machines.

Never allow more than one person in charge of the machines.

Keep a small trough of dry bran constantly before the chicks.

If chicks are made to exercise, 16 foot runs are sufficiently large.

Rugged chicks are not produced by strong heat in the brooder.

Chicks must be kept indoors during windy, rainy or snowy weather.

Do not run the incubator at too high a temperature. It weakens chicks.

The best egg testers are those which can be used on an ordinary house lamp.

Hay cut in half inch lengths makes fine scratching material for brooder chicks.

Millet and canary seed are excellent for scattering among litter in the brooder.

The busy chick will not suffer from the cold. Keep it exercising in the brooder.

Never judge the value of an incubator by the hatch—first inspect the breeding stock.

Never turn the wick too high, or the lamp may smoke, collect soot, and catch fire.

In no branch of poultry work has so much progress been made as in artificial incubation.

Geo. W. Pressey raised over 25,000 broilers by the system of feeding he describes on page 68.

Read the methods for feeding broilers by two pioneer Hammonton broiler raisers, on page 68, of this issue.

The morning feed should be given as early as possible, and the evening feed as late as the chicks can see to eat.

For convenience and comfort in attending to them, during bad weather, place all outdoor brooders under sheds.

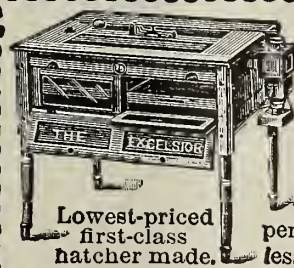
**R. I. REDS.** Prolific layers. Eggs, 26, \$1.50; \$4 pr. 100. St'k in season. E. S. Piper, Camden, Me.

## White Wyandottes

98 EGGS PER HEAD from Nov. 1 to April 1. All stock carefully bred and selected. Fine vigorous Cockerels at \$1.50. A few very choice ones for \$2.50. All farm raised. GEO. W. CONABLE, Cortland, N. Y.

## S. C. White Leghorns

representing best laying strains in the country. They are bred for eggs; but many are good enough for the show room. Extra fine hens \$1.50 each; five for \$5.00. Cockerels \$2.00. DALEVIEW POULTRY FARM, Huntsville, Penna.



Lowest-priced first-class hatcher made.

## Hatch Chickens by Steam

with the simple, perfect, self-regulating

## EXCELSIOR Incubator

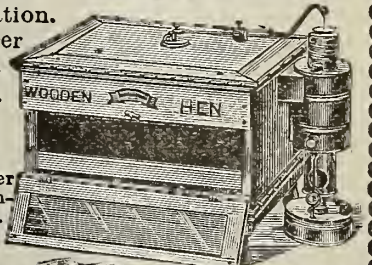
Thousands in successful operation.

Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs, at less cost, than any other hatcher.

## The WOODEN HEN

the most efficient incubator for raising poultry on a small scale ever invented. A perfect hatcher—automatic, self-regulating, thoroughly constructed, fully guaranteed. 50 egg capacity. Catalogs free.

GEO. H. STAHL, Patentee and Sole Manufacturer 114-122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.



## HEAVY LAYING BRAHMAS,

(HARTNEST STRAIN.)

Bred for generations from prolific laying hens, (with known individual high egg records), mated to sons of heavy layers. Certificate of Pedigree furnished each purchaser, showing number of eggs laid by dam, weight of dam's egg, score, and other information of value.

Buy Now and Save Money.

"The Early Bird Catches the Worm." Satisfaction Guaranteed.

HART NEST YARDS, Framingham, Mass.

Cook the lamp burners before using again, in a quart of water in which about a tablespoonful of washing soda has been added.

R. W. Davison, in his book "Practical Poultry Culture," endorses A FEW HEN'S plans of testing eggs on the 7th and 14th days.

It is no worse for editors to advertise their poultry in their own journals than for editors to advertise plans for making home-made incubators, thus hurting the industry.

R. W. Davison says small ventilating pipes in incubators are apt to get clogged with spider webs, and it is next to impossible to clean them out without ripping the machine apart.

**BUSINESS LT. BRAHMAS.** Choice Cockerels \$1 and \$2 each. Half value. Must go. EMORY E. BANKS Crittenden, N. Y.

**Buff Ply. Rocks** exclusively. Surplus stock all sold except one cock (1 yr. old) Buff to skin; weighs 9-10 lbs., and has a fine upright comb with five serrations. Will sell him for \$5.00. FORD BROS., Oak Hill, N. Y.

## White Leghorn Cockerels

Knapp-Wyckoff Strain \$1.00 each. G. E. CHALFANT, Hammonton, N. J.

**AN EXPERIENCED** young man, single, desires a position on a poultry farm to manage or assist. Broiler raising preferred. Address, C. P. C., Care M. K. Boyer, Hammonton, N. J.

## Maple Farm Duck Yards

Our mammoth Pekin ducks stand unrivaled for size and symmetry. 2500 birds selected with care for breeding purposes. Order early. Eggs in season. My book "Natural and Artificial Duck Culture," free with each order.

## Monarch Incubator still ahead.

Send for catalogues to

**JAMES RANKIN**, South Easton, Mass.

**FOR SALE.** One hundred egg Incubator and three sectional Hot Water Brooder, "Prairie State," used twice. W. E. VAN NORDEN, Plainfield, N. J.

## SEND

for my catalog. I just won 4 firsts Rose Comb Brown and 3 firsts Single Comb Brown Leghorns; have won on all breeds mentioned. I can prove I have the greatest winners and layers in the world.

Barred and White Rocks, Big White Wyandottes, Black Minorcas, Bl. Langshans, Buff Leghorns, Pekin Ducks, Belgian Hares, Light Brahmans. EGGS, \$1.00 per 13.

W. W. KULP, Pottstown, Pa.



## A Few Hens' Daily Market Reports.

### NEW YORK.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Dulany & Branin,  
41 Hewitt Ave., New York City.

#### Dressed Poultry and Eggs.

	Roasters.	Broilers.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Turkeys.	Eggs.
November 19	15	20	11	13	16	26
21	15	20	12	12 1-2	17	25
22	15	20	12	12	15	26
23	15	22	12	12	15	26
25	15	21	12 1-2	12	16	26
26	15	20	12 1-2	12	16	26
28	15 1-2	22	12	12	16	26
29	15 1-2	22	12 1-2	12	16	27
30	16	20	11 1-2	12 1-2	15	28

### PHILADELPHIA.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Philip Quigley, 303  
South Front St., Philadelphia, Pa.

#### Eggs and Live Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chicks.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.
November 22	23	9	9	6 00	6 00	10
23	23	9	9	6 00	6 00	10
25	23	9	9	6 00	6 00	10
26	24	10	9	6 00	6 00	10
28	24	9	9	6 00	6 00	10
29	25	10	9	6 00	6 00	10
30	26	9	9	6 00	6 00	10

#### Dressed Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chicks.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.
November 22	9	6	11	9	6 00	13
23	9	6	11	9	6 00	13
25	10	6	11	10	6 00	13
26	11	6	12	10	6 00	13
28	10	6	12	10	6 00	14
29	9	6	11	9	6 00	12
30	9	6	10	8	6 00	12

### Daily Market Report.

*A Carefully Prepared and Accurate  
Report of the Largest Markets  
North, South, East and West.*

For some time A FEW HENS has been considering the advisability of having a complete and accurate market report, so that our readers might know about how the market stands from day to day. To give the report at the time of going to press, as is adopted by some journals, is not definite enough. 'Tis true that in our reports, fifteen days elapse in the time of closing the report for the month, and the issuing of the paper. Prices in that time will no doubt change. But by our plan in giving the daily quotations for that month, the reader can very easily see about what has been the average change in price for the month, and in that way pretty accurately figure the possible price at the time of shipment. For instance: The variation on eggs during the month has been one cent per dozen. Deduct this one cent from the last quotation, and you will get about the limit. Of course, prices are governed by supply,

### CHICAGO.

Furnished A FEW HENS by Sprague Commis-  
sion Co., 218 So. Water St., Chicago, Ill.

#### Eggs.

	Fresh-laid.	Held-fresh.	Recandled.	Cold-storage.	Pickled.
November 23	22	20	22 1-2	15	14
25	22	20	22 1-2	15	14
26	22	20	23	15 1-2	14
28	22	20	23	16	14
29	22 1-2	20	23	16 1-2	14
30	23	20	24	16 1-2	14

#### Live Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chicks.	Turk. Hens.	Gobblers.	Young Turk.	Ducks.	Geese.
Nov. 23	6	4	7	9	7	9 1-2	6	5.50
25	7	4	8	8	7	8	6 12	5.50
26	7	4	8	8	7	8	6 1-2	5.50
28	7	4	7 1-2	8	7	8	6 1-2	5.50
29	7	4	6 1-2	7	7	8	6 1-2	5.50
30	7	5	7	9	8	9	7	5.50

#### Dressed Poultry.

	Hens.	Roosters.	Spring Chicks.	Turk. Hens.	Gobblers.	Young Turk.	Ducks.	Geese.
Nov. 23	6 1-2	5	7	10 1-2	8	10 1-2	7	7
25	7	5	8 1-2	10	8	10	7	7
26	7 1-2	5	8 1-2	10	8	10	7	7
28	7 1-2	5	8	10	8	10	7	7
29	7	5	7	9	8	9	7	7
30	7	5	7	9	8	9	7	8

## 600 YEARLING HENS

250 Pullets and 500 Cockerels

Must be sold at once.  
18 varieties of chickens, ducks, guineas and turkeys. Have a Bronze turkey gobbler three years old (weight 50 pounds), for sale. Describe your wants and I will name you prices.

JAMES M. SMITH, P. O. Box 50,  
Perkiomenville, (Montgomery County), Penna.

demand and condition, but the variations are hardly ever as great as some might expect.

In our Symposium in this issue we devote considerable attention to egg quotations in Nebraska, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, New York, Georgia, Connecticut, Ohio and Massachusetts, for the past year. We do this so that correspondents may compare the prices in different sections of the country, and which will give those who contemplate embarking in the business a good idea of what they may expect.

It will be noticed in the reports given this month, as above, that we have only a part of November. That was occasioned by a delay in completing negotiations with reliable correspondents. We are not yet through with our negotiations, as to date we have not had a reply from our Boston party. But by next issue the complete month will be given.

Time and again readers of our paper have written us for prices or quotations, and have asked that we start a market department. We felt favorable to the scheme, but to give only the Boston or Philadelphia markets would not have been satisfactory to poultrymen living North or West. So as to have

the general market taken into consideration, we secured the services of Dulany & Branin, 41, 43 and 45 Hewitt Avenue, New York city, to furnish us daily the New York quotations; Philip Quigley, 303 South Front St., Philadelphia, Pa., for the Philadelphia (or Southern market); and the Sprague Commission Company, 218 South Water street, Chicago, Ills., for the Chicago (or Western market). Our negotiations are not yet complete for a correspondent for the Boston (or Eastern market). Thus, practically, we will be able each month to tell our readers just how poultry and eggs are selling North, South, East and West, a service that we know they will doubly appreciate. No one will question the reliability of our correspondents, they being men of honor who have been in the field for years, and who have every facility for giving accurate reports.

All our quotations are based on prime stock. It should be the aim of all shippers to send only gilt edge stock to market. By giving the best quotations, it will educate shippers to aim for the highest standard. "Better poultry" should be the maxim of every poulterer, and A FEW HENS hopes to be able to properly equip each of its readers to reach the highest point. Remember a little stock well marketed will always pay better than a lot of haphazard stuff.

The prices given are wholesale; add from two to five cents for retail figures.

**WHITE P. ROCKS** and **WHITE WYANDOTTES**. Winners at the leading American shows. Great layers of brown eggs. Stock for sale at reasonable prices.

H. A. NOURSE, Box 1607, Barre, Mass.

## COBURN'S BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS

and WHITE WYANDOTTES

Bred for utility and beauty combined. Young and old stock for sale that will give you good layers and table poultry. Circular free.  
P. A. P. Coburn, E-759 Stevens St., Lowell, Mass.



### THE WINTER LAYER

will need a stimulant when the weather gets cold and everything is covered with snow. The very best stimulant known for egg production is

### Pioneer Clover Meal

It is finely ground clover hay which has been carefully cured so as to preserve its natural green color and aroma. It is ground by our special made machinery and packed in new sacks. Prices, 50 lbs. \$1.00; 100 lbs. \$2.00; 5 lbs. 25c. Send for FREE sample book; endorsed by all leading poultry editors.

**THE BENNETT & MILLETT COMPANY,**  
Box 11, Gouverneur, N. Y.

**THIS PAPER** will cost you only **Twenty-five Cents** for **TWELVE MONTHS**. Can you afford to do without it? We accept postage stamps in payment for it. Order at once, so as to get every issue.

NOTHING ON EARTH  
WILL  
**MAKE HENS LAY**  
LIKE  
**SHERIDAN'S**  
**CONDITION POWDER**

Full particulars, and sample copy of THE BEST POULTRY PAPER free, I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Box A, Boston, Mass.



## People We Know.

*Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.*

W. B. Gibson & Sons, West Alexander, Pa., offer big bargains in Barred Plymouth Rocks. *Farm, Field and Fireside*, Chicago, are sending advertisers a novelty in a ready reference calendar.

The imported Houdans advertised in this issue by B. Warrington, Hammonton, N. J., are choice bargains.

The *Small Farmer* is a new publication hailing from Troy, N. Y. It believes in less land and better work, and starts out well.

The Standard Green Bone and Vegetable Cutter Co., Milford, Mass., have just issued a neat catalogue describing their machines.

G. E. Chalfant, Hammonton, N. J., is advertising big, lusty Barred Plymouth Rock cockerels, and, indeed, they are true to name.

A FEW HENS acknowledges, with thanks, a complimentary pass to their 25th annual or Silver Jubilee exhibition, January 9 to 13, 1899.

D. Lincoln Orr, Orr's Mills, N. Y., has issued a condensed price list of poultry supplies that should be in the hands of all poultrymen. Mr. Orr is the originator of the grit business.

Johnson & Stokes, 217 Market street, Philadelphia, Pa., have just issued a complete catalogue on choice poultry and poultry supplies. It should be in the hands of all poultrymen.

The colored plate of a pair of Barred Plymouth Rocks, in December *Reliable Poultry Journal*, does credit to the artist, Sewell, and the breeder, A. C. Hawkins, as well as the editor, Curtis.

D. A. Mount, Jamesburg, N. J., proprietor of Pine Tree Farm, will send a copy of his catalogue upon application. Mr. Mount breeds all the leading varieties of land and water fowls.

The new poultry class of the Rhode Island Experiment College, Kingston, will begin next month. Those desiring to avail themselves of this golden opportunity should write Prof. A. A. Brigham, as above, for circulars.

Please send me three bags more of Bowker's Animal Meal. It is my opinion now that one can hardly afford to keep hens without it. It is simply wonderful in its effect for producing eggs. E. S. FARNUM, Uxbridge, Mass.

A. J. Silberstein, proprietor of Hartnest Farm, Framingham, Mass., and inventor and patentee of the Eureka Nest Box, has just issued a neat little book describing the benefits derived from the use of these nests, and which will be sent free for the asking.

The H-O Company, New York, are now offering a pigeon food that will be appreciated by fanciers. It contains all such grains as are relished and of special benefit for pigeons. This is a new departure, and quite different from the regular Scratching Food which they put up especially for poultry use.

Broiler raisers attention is called to the advertisement of D. Lincoln Orr, on page 73 of this issue. Mr. Orr is offering White Indian Games, males and females, at a bargain, to close out. The White Indian Game makes an excellent cross on the Asiatic and American breeds for quick growing and plump broilers. Mr. H. W. Sargent, Amesbury, Mass., writes: "I have used not far from 2 1-2 tons of Bowker's Animal Meal, and find its judicious use has nearly doubled my egg supply. I had tried other forms of animal food, including green cut bone, and did not make it pay. I have no further use now for my \$20 bone cutter."

The 1897 report of the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station is an immense volume of about 650 pages. The feature of the work is the complete chapter on breeding geese, and experiments with the same. We expect to call attention to a number of facts contained in this report, in a future issue of A FEW HENS.

Ex-President Cleveland, who has started a farm school at Princeton, N. J., has, through his manager, John Henry Vroom, selected two of Geo. H. Stahl's Excelsior Incubators. It is doubtful if there is a more enterprising manufacturer in the country than Mr. Stahl. Ever wide awake, and always up to the times, he is pushing his business to the very front. This latest success—practically the endorsement of Mr. Cleveland—is one of the results of Mr. Stahl's enterprise. His illustrated book on incubators will be sent free to any one who writes for it and mentions A FEW HENS.

Rackham's Poultry Directory, published by Robert Chamberlain, Orange, N. J., should be in the library of all poultrymen. It contains the names and addresses of most of the reliable poultry breeders and fanciers in America and

Canada; together with a complete list of judges, dealers, associations, papers, books, supply dealers, breeds, etc., as well as other useful information relating to poultry culture. The price of the book is \$1.00, which is indeed very low, considering the immense amount of labor attached to compiling such a work, and the information it imparts. There have been many attempts at getting out similar works, but none have succeeded as well as has Mr. Rackham.

The Excelsior Wire and Poultry Supply Co., 28 Vesey street, New York city, with the genial W. V. Russ at the head, is very much like the large department stores. There is nothing in the poultry line that it does not handle, and we believe that today they are doing the largest business in supplies of any concern in the country. They send out the largest and most complete catalogue yet placed before the poultry world, and, notwithstanding their large trade, we have yet to hear of the first complaint against them. One of A FEW HENS' mottoes is to protect its readers, and with that maxim in mind, it unhesitatingly says: "When in want consult Russ."

The commission firm of Haines & Branin, New York city, dealers in Philadelphia poultry, has been dissolved, Mr. Haines disposing of his interest to Joseph B. Dulany, and the firm now trading under Dulany & Branin. The place of business has also been changed from 61 to 63 Grace street, to 41, 43 and 45 Hewitt avenue. Mr. Branin, of the above firm, previously was a raiser and shipper of Philadelphia poultry, and can fully understand the necessity of reciprocation of the commission merchant and the dealer or shipper. He knows from experience, as a shipper, that there has been entirely too much misunderstanding between these two distinct parties, and he writes that it is his aim to give the shipper justice.

"The Cyphers Incubator Catalogue and Guide to Poultry Culture," published by the Cyphers Incubator Co., Wayland, N. Y., and sold at 10 cents a copy, is before us. It is one of the neatest and most complete works we have seen this year. Aside from half-tone illustrations the book is replete with valuable information on artificial incubation, brooding, and poultry culture in general. It is fully worth the price asked. Those of our readers who delight in reading of the steady growth and success of poultry plants, and to what measures they attribute their success, will find this book of untold interest. Messrs. Cyphers & Patchin, who compose the Cyphers Incubator Co., are young men, but full of grit and business perseverance, and are evidently building up a substantial trade.

The services of experts at dressing poultry for market, are often desired to teach men in charge of new poultry plants. A FEW HENS has frequently received such requests, and has sent out parties that have given great satisfaction. It has now secured the services of Frank Y. Hopping, one of the Hammonton pioneers, who will visit poultry farms and teach the art for a reasonable fee and travelling expenses. Owners of poultry farms will do well to secure the services of Mr. Hopping to teach their help. Correspondence can be sent to Mr. H., at Hammonton, N. J. Poultry farms desiring managers or assistants should write A FEW HENS at once. At present we have three excellent parties that we can recommend. We make no charge for our services in this direction, our object being to benefit our readers.

There seems to be no end of poultry books, and yet there is always room for good, practical works. One of the latest and best we have seen is "Practical Poultry Culture," by R. W. Davison, of Glendola, N. J., and published by the *Epitomist* Publishing Company, Indianapolis, Ind. It treats on all points of value in practical work, devoting much space to the natural and artificial methods in incubation, as well as an exhaustive essay on feed and care. The chapter on diseases, and common sense remedies, is a feature. The turkey, duck and goose come in for a share of Mr. Davison's logic, and he handles them with a master hand. A FEW HENS has repeatedly quoted the wise sayings of Mr. Davison, and now takes pleasure in calling attention to this complete manual. It is remarkably cheap at 35 cents a copy.

The Prairie State Incubator Company, Homer City, Pa., have just issued a supplement to their 1898 catalogue, which more particularly describes the Prairie State Style B incubator, a new invention, and which sells at a less price than their other makes, but which, nevertheless, is constructed with that same care and skill, as is characteristic of the different machines turned out by this old reliable company. The new incubator is built with a double case,

packed with mineral wool. The egg chambers are 6 and 7 inches in depth. The 100-egg size sells at \$15 net. The dimensions are 24x33x12 1-2 inches, 36 inches high; weight, 135 pounds, crated. The 200-egg size sells for \$24. It measures 30x46x13 1-2 inches, 37 inches high, and weighs 200 pounds, crated. For full particulars we advise our readers to write the Prairie State Company for one of their '98 Supplements, of course mentioning that A FEW HENS told you.

Winter egg production is regulated more by the feed than anything else. A certain amount of bulky food must be given, and experience has taught us that nothing so fully supplies the necessary parts of an egg as does clover hay. In order that it may be readily incorporated in the mash, clover meal was originated. We have repeatedly called our readers attention to the Pioneer brand, manufactured by the Bennett & Millett Co., of West Gouverneur, N. Y., and we take pleasure in doing so again. Northern New York is famous for its splendid clover fields. During the spring and summer the whole country is bathed in the perfume of the clover blossoms. As usually harvested, clover will turn black or dark brown when cut for hay, and in this shape it is not a food of which the laying hens will partake largely. The Pioneer Clover Meal is made from bright, fresh looking, specially prepared leaves. Carefully selected fields of clover are cut when they are not too ripe. A hay tedder is then used to dry the crop as rapidly as possible, and the cured product is put under shelter before either dew or rain has an opportunity to spoil its color or flavor. In addition to the protein, clover contains potash, soda, magnesia, sulphur, phosphoric acid, chlorine and iron, and is a better balanced ration than any grain that can be fed. Another important advantage in its use is that it is an extremely cheap food. It will promote and maintain the health of poultry and will produce rapid and vigorous growth in chicks, young ducks, etc. Demands of the trade have necessitated the enlargement of the plant at W. Gouverneur. The mill now has a capacity of over 200 sacks a day, and will be kept going to its limit all winter. We advise our readers to send to the Bennett & Millett Co., Box 2, West Gouverneur, N. Y., for a book and a free sample of the meal. A fair trial of it will show some of its good qualities, but it should be used continuously all winter if the greatest benefit is to be derived.

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